EAST BAY EXPRESS

JULY 28 AUGUST 3 2010 EASTBAYEXPRESS.COM

The Other Green Economy

Cash-starved East Bay cities bet the farm on pot.

As Oakland and Berkeley explore the legality of taxing large pot farms ...

Politics and profits are dividing providers who once were allies.

Meanwhile, Richmond sends mixed signals about its own policies.

And just how green are massive cannabis plantations, anyway?

By David Downs, Robert Gammon, and Alex Weber

INSIDE THIS ISSUE 31

smallbusiness

Retail Climate Slows Market

The long-awaited food emporium at Jack London Square waits for a rebound

Raise Money Without Fear

To find investors for your business, you must become familiar with the law

CULTURE 18

ROBERT ASHLEY'S LIFE WELL WASTED

The Berkeley podcaster gives video gamers the public radio treatment.

By [illegible]

A Life Well Wasted by Berkeley podcaster Robert Ashley is hardly the only Internet radio show devoted to video games. But it must be the only one regularly compared by fans to Public Radio International's beloved radio program *This American Life*. Its more-than-polished production values invite the association. The true clincher is *A Life Well Wasted*'s focus not on video games per se, but on the quirks, fascinations and lives of the people who play them. *Story inside*

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Graphic Designers Brian Kelly, Nicholas Wong

Circulation
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Systems Managers Janus Networks
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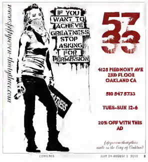

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Michaela Brasseur, Oakland

"Hayward Power Plant Fight Back," Eco Watch

Build the Gas Plant

Robert Gammon gives good information about **PG&E**'s Hayward natural gas plant, but implications of the most important fact were missed. Nine pounds of particulate matter per hour from the plant is nothing compared to the pollution from 500,000 vehicles per day on the city's freeways. Quibbling over 1.5 pounds an hour is a joke. The little bit of pollution added by the plant is nothing to be concerned about. Gammon's article gives no numbers on how much in particulates is added to Hayward's air from those 500,000 vehicles, but it should be noted that the antagonists in the controversy, the **Sierra Club** and **Chabot College**, don't seem to mind the freeways' threat to health. Neither does the State of California. Pollution problems from cars were dealt with thirty years ago, but particulates from heavy trucks are only now being addressed. For some reason electric power has become the culprit.

Fossil fuels have become an obsession in certain circles. Gammon's mention of the state's 20 percent "renewable" standard shows that he takes this obsession seriously, but that standard will go the way of the dodo bird when Assembly Bill 32 is suspended this fall by an initiative designed to combat its draconian push for "renewables." The recession is forcing our state to embrace reality. The initiative demands that planners forget about stopping fossil fuels until California's unemployment rate falls to 5.5 percent from its current 12 percent. That is not going to happen anytime soon. Build the plant, then get to work curtailing heavy trucks and their particulate pollution.

Steve Tabor, Oakland

"Is Oakland Animal Services Killing Too Many Dogs?"

Start Saving Lives

Stop blaming the community. There is no doubt that **Oakland Animal Services** faces unique challenges. No one said running an open-access municipal shelter in Oakland was an easy job. But I was surprised that the shelter administration said nothing about what they are doing to reduce the number of animals they kill. They simply defended the status quo of killing 40 percent and blamed the community at large. Their excuses for having such a high kill rate focus on social problems such as poverty, the economy, and irresponsible pet owners. These problems will always exist in Oakland. What is important is what policies the shelter implements to solve them. Outreach to the Latino, Asian and African-American community has always been sorely lacking. Partnership with Bay Area rescue organizations is dropping dramatically. Without embracing every cross section of the community through targeted outreach, adoption events and education designed for the majority of people who live in Oakland (multilingual web site, advertising, flyers), the shelter will never reduce its kill rate meaningfully. The tried-and-true policies proven to drastically reduce kill rates are painstakingly documented by The **No Kill Advocacy** Center. If the shelter administration doesn't have a strong commitment to reduce the numbers of animals it kills the shelter will continue to fail in its primary objective: Saving lives.

Ian Elwood, Oakland

Five Steps OAS Can Take Now

The article and the ensuing comments have brought into sharp focus a number of practices that could be changed virtually overnight with life-saving results. It will be very interesting to see if any of them get implemented.

1. Stop locking the door to the back cages. They were not locked at the old hellhole at Ford and Lancaster and anyone could walk in off the street and look for their lost dog and/or see if they wanted to adopt any dog there. I know, I did both. The locking of the door to the back cages was an extreme sore spot with the community back in the days of the Redban Wars, and has been held over anyway. This is clearly more about asserting control than about getting dogs out of the system alive. Requiring people to wait outside a locked door till a volunteer is available to "escort" them is controlling, mean-spirited, and above all inefficient.

2. Stop locking the virtual back cages by failing to extensively publicize online to any interested rescue and concerned citizen the dogs in danger of being killed. Preferably on your web site in front of God and everybody, as you are a publicly funded agency subject to sunshine laws. Follow the good practice implemented by other shelters in the area, e.g. San Jose, which is dealing with similar issues.

3. Stop picking and choosing what rescues you'll deal with. In so doing you are not complying with the law and inviting legal action. Follow the practices other shelters, e.g. Berkeley, are using with great success.

4. Stop making paperwork and high adoption fees a barrier to adoption. Once you signed on with the Maddie's Adoptathon and let people adopt for free, which clearly worked admirably, the high adoption fees lost all legitimacy. A privately funded humane society or rescue is free to set whatever onerous policies it thinks best; a taxpayer-funded agency, not so much.

5. Stop squelching the initiative and expertise of the volunteers when it has a chance of saving even a single life.

It will be very interesting to see if any of this happens, or whether we just get more hand-waving, excuse-making, circling of the wagons and protestations that OAS is doing all it can and we're all (as the taxpayers funding the system) being so MEEEEAANN to point out things that are not working, with fatal consequences to the victims.

Mary Rumbart, Oakland

There Are Many Ways To Help

I think the "circling of wagons" response is due to the inaccuracies of the article and the fact that the author only spoke to disgruntled ex-volunteers, not any of the current ones who clearly love volunteering at OAS.

OAS does not turn a blind eye to criticism; it is constantly improving itself to be better. Just ask any volunteer: miss a week or two of volunteering and you'll come back to different protocols. OAS is always changing how we can improve the housing and care for the many animals under our roof because we want to and because we have to — we also juggle dog bust cases, cruelty cases, kitten season, the recent spike in the small dog population, and many other serious issues. I wouldn't volunteer at OAS if I saw that euthanasia was the knee-jerk response to these problems. Instead the staff and volunteers work together creatively and thoughtfully to do the hard work to find solutions to these problems. And those solutions do involve working with local rescue groups. Despite the article's allegation that OAS has "chronically poor relationships with rescue groups," we currently pay **Hopalong** to manage our kitten foster program and are hosting classes taught by **Our Pack**, a pit bull rescue group — just two groups among many that we work with.

If you want to be part of that solution I welcome any of you to attend one of our weekly volunteer orientations to get a tour of the shelter and see firsthand what we do. It may inspire you to get involved, as it did for me and many others. The sad fact is that euthanasia happens in many busy, crowded, underfunded municipal shelters. You can sit there and lament the fact, or you can do something: volunteer, foster,

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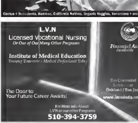

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adopt, donate, lobby city council for more funding, etc. There are many ways to help rather than venting online.

Yvonne Tseng, San Francisco

Better Off Not Suffering

It is ridiculous to expect that an animal control facility — not a humane society, not an SPCA — behave in the same way. Their primary purpose is to get unwanted animals that are breeding rampantly off the streets. Wild and badly raised animals left to run (or starve) pose a huge danger to the public, not to mention add to the problem by increasing the population. Urban cities have much higher pit bull and other bully breed populations for whom careful and loving raising is a necessity to integration into a family.

Budgets are slashed right now, and blaming this facility isn't going to change its need to kill animals. If you people are so concerned, hold fundraisers, write to your representatives, volunteer, foster dogs, start a rescue. I'd like to see how easy it is for you to re-home them (in good homes where they won't be used to fight or bait fighters) in this economy, all while feeding them and housing them.

On another note, I adopted a rabbit from OAS over a year ago and I had to wait to adopt until surrenders were done. I sat there with two children for well over an hour as people signed over their pitbulls, german shepherd/rottweiler mixes, and several litters of puppies and kittens. And that was just a few hours of one day. It is very easy to yell about killing the animals, but so much harder to do something about it, easier to hold up a sign and protest or post anonymously on the Internet than adopt, spay and neuter, donate money, volunteer.

Frankly they are better off NOT suffering as some of them obviously were — with worms, beatings, being tied in the yard, being fought, covered with fleas and ticks, and starving.

Jessica Dawson, Discovery Bay

Anonymous Griping Won't Solve the Problem

It's natural for OAS supporters to feel defensive and want to lash out at somebody, but **Bad Rap** is not at the center of this article's message. Since our motivations have been called into question, I need to clarify: BR was invited in 2007 by former director **Adam Parascandola** to create a closer relationship in order to help the shelter build an in-house, training and enrichment program that would benefit pit bull type dogs and — with some luck — all dogs in the shelter. We agreed to a pilot program and got to work. All pit bull type dogs would be evaluated for suitability in homes. Until enough people were trained to work them, five to six dogs with a variety of behaviors would be housed in a separate ward designed to help volunteers learn how to work with behaviors while creating and reinforcing a safe, quiet place for leashing and de-stressing. We brought in a trailer to provide some sanity, a part-time trainer, an enrichment program that included stuffed frozen kongs, new handling techniques, and for the first time, a protocol where dogs were asked to perform basic obedience to get out of their kennels and move through the shelter. While most OAS dog handlers decided not to participate, a handful did and one even adopted one of our celebrated dogs ("Bob"). Shelter reps from around the country visited the program in several Camps and went back to jump start their own pit bull shelter program back at home, a ripple effect that is worth celebrating. I'm sad that some volunteers are unaware of the work that went on, but it is a busy shelter with a lot going on and communication can be spotty.

BR's project at OAS was not designed to be permanent. Our job was to inspire improvements and present templates that OAS could cherry pick from so they could be replicated throughout the shelter once we moved on. In our eyes, this particular program was as successful as it could be given the challenges. We ended when it was clear that we'd done all we could within the OAS culture. It didn't get nearly the amount of internal support that we'd hoped, so we pared it down accordingly. Despite all, it was well worth it to us and especially to the dogs that were saved as result.

I'm deeply disappointed to see the disparaging remarks here about BR from anonymous volunteers. Our group came to OAS in good faith and brought love, hope and heart to this work, and I believe we all learned a lot from the experience. Dozens of dogs with health and behavior issues found their way to safety because of this focus, and the ones that were too broken to place got compassion holds. What we learned about housing and training pit bulls in the chaos of a public shelter is being shared with shelters around the country in conferences and workshops, and is even being implemented in places that have long banned pit bull adoptions. When I hear that OAS is building a training class for dogs, I beam with pride.

No, OAS is not nearly what it could be. It's going to take several years of hard work to get there, and part of that work has to include hearing the criticism and learning from it. Hiding behind anonymous handles on message boards and raging at other groups won't help the dogs.

It's clear that this topic is not going to go away anytime soon. We hope shelter supporters see this as an opportunity to create healthy dialogue and substantial improvements. Message boards are great for venting, but the real work will have to happen face to face.

Donna Reynolds, Executive Director
BADRAP, San Francisco

[illegible] July News, 7/14

Where the Money Is

Prop 13 doesn't have as much of an effect as one might think. According to Alameda County Tax Assessor records, 71 percent of the parcels on the County's 2009-2010 tax roll have a base year date of 1990 or later. Those properties account for 40 percent of assessed property value on the tax roll.

The city did a presentation a few weeks back that explained that redevelopment in Alameda currently takes over $3 million from the schools. When the state faces funding shortfalls, as is happening now, that $3 million would be gladly welcomed by the district, no doubt.

Some of the money is given back to the district through "pass-throughs," but a lot of it goes to a housing fund which cannot be used to pay teachers or "maintain neighborhood schools." The purpose evidently is to put the district in the business of building low-cost housing for employees. The problem is that most employees earn too much to qualify for low-cost housing. That money will probably accumulate for some time before anything can be done with it. And it still can't be used to pay teachers.

David Howard, Alameda

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SEVEN DAYS

ALAMEDA POINT MINI-CITY LEVELED

The city council voted to kill plans by SunCal for a massive housing project on the former Alameda Naval Air Station. Plus: Oakland approves giant pot farms.

By Robert Gammon

Alameda Point was going to be the largest housing development that the East Bay had seen in years — certainly the biggest on this side of the hills since the 1970s. The 4,000-plus homes proposed for the former **Naval Air Station** would have housed about 10,000 residents. But last week, the **Alameda City Council** snuffed out plans for the new mini-city on the island when it voted to kill its deal with private developer **SunCal**. The 4-0 vote also ended an often-contentious relationship with the Orange County developer that in recent weeks even included allegations of illegal wrongdoing.

In truth, the beginning of the end for SunCal's grandiose plans came in February when 85 percent of Alameda voters rejected the developer's ballot measure. SunCal, already rocked by the bankruptcy of its financial partner **Lehman Brothers**, had attempted to make an end-run around the normal negotiating process with the city by asking voters to approve everything that the company wanted for Alameda Point. The decision failed miserably.

A contrite SunCal then attempted to resurrect its housing proposal with the wary city council. But after the ballot-measure debacle, the company only had one sure-vote on the council — **Lena Tam**. Then that support unraveled earlier this month when Tam became embroiled in a red-hot controversy.

Alameda Interim City Manager **Ann Marie Gallant** and Alameda City Attorney **Teresa Highsmith** had begun to suspect this spring that Tam was leaking confidential city information to SunCal in violation of state law. So they hired an outside lawyer to investigate. The lawyer concluded that Tam had illegally leaked information to SunCal via e-mail, thereby harming the city's negotiating position with the developer. City officials asked the **Alameda County District Attorney's Office** to impanel a criminal grand jury and possibly oust Tam from office.

Tam immediately claimed that the investigation was politically motivated because she had been critical of Gallant and Highsmith and because she's running for reelection this year. SunCal, meanwhile, alleged that Gallant had opposed its Alameda Point development for more than a year and that the Tam investigation was a smokescreen designed to kill its plans. The company said it was Gallant who should be investigated.

In the end, Tam abstained from voting on ending the city's exclusive negotiating agreement with SunCal last week. But Tam didn't cite the probe into her actions as a reason for not casting a vote. Instead, she said she wanted to see SunCal's final offer, submitted only days before the vote, before making a decision, according to the respected Alameda blog **The Island**. As for SunCal, it likely will file a lawsuit against the city, which now plans to review its options on what to do with the former Navy base.

Silicon Valley of Pot

In an effort to turn Oakland into the Silicon Valley of medical cannabis, the **Oakland City Council** voted last week to award permits early next year for up to four giant pot farms in the city. Oakland thus became the first city in the nation to approve the industrialization of medical marijuana. The council also plans to set up a permit process for mid-size growing operations after growers said the huge cannabis farms would put them out of business. The council also will ask city voters in November to levy a tax of up to 5 percent on the cultivation businesses, in an effort to cash in on the new industry.

AC Transit Sickout

Angry **AC Transit** bus drivers launched a sickout after the agency's board of directors imposed a cost-cutting contract. About 20 percent of drivers failed to show up for work last week, causing bus service delays and inconveniencing riders. The bus drivers' union contended that the board should have held off on imposing the new contract until after an arbitrator decides the dispute. But the board maintained that it needs the new contract now to achieve $15.7 million in savings for the cash-strapped agency.

Extremist Targeted the ACLU

A heavily armed right-wing extremist who fired numerous gunshots at CHP officers in Oakland allegedly told investigators that he was about to launch an attack on the **ACLU** and a San Francisco environmental group when he was pulled over on Interstate 580. Alameda County prosecutors charged the shooter, **Byron Williams** of Groveland, with four counts of attempting to murder a peace officer; he faces four possible life terms in prison.

Three-Dot Roundup

Johannes Mehserle supporters held a rally in Walnut Creek, but were outnumbered by **Oscar Grant** supporters in a demonstration turned-shout-fest that remained mostly peaceful. ... The number of people charged with felonies in connection with the Mehserle verdict demonstrations in Oakland rose to fourteen. ... The **BART** board of directors resurrected its controversial proposal for a $490 million tramway to Oakland airport, approving a new financing plan for the project, the *San Francisco Chronicle* reported. ... The Oakland City Council agreed to pay $6.5 million to settle lawsuits filed over the police department's search warrant scandal, the *Oakland Tribune* reported. The cash-strapped city will have to pay $2 million while its insurance carrier will pay the other $4.5 million. ... And Oakland Police Chief **Anthony Batts** has asked several federal law enforcement agencies to help fight crime in the city in the wake of the police layoffs, according to the *Tribune*. ●

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Seven Days is culled from our news blog, 92510.

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ECO WATCH

ARE GIANT POT FARMS GREEN?

Oakland's massive indoor cannabis grows will consume lots of electricity. But will the city make sure they don't add to greenhouse-gas emissions?

By Robert Gammon

Doug Basfen

Cannabis is usually considered to be a "green" product, but when Oakland's four giant indoor medical marijuana growing operations receive permits early next year, they could become the largest energy consumers in the city. They also could become the biggest sources of greenhouse gas emissions in Oakland — unless the city tightly regulates them.

No one knows for sure precisely how much energy the four indoor facilities will use, because they've never before been constructed on such a massive scale in the United States. But the intense lighting required to grow marijuana indoors in an industrialized setting — up to two football fields in size or larger — is expected to use so much electricity that outfitting them with solar panels likely will do little to offset their total energy consumption.

In an interview, Oakland City Councilwoman **Rebecca Kaplan**, the co-author of the large cannabis farm law, said the city plans to address the energy-consumption issue as it develops administrative guidelines in the months ahead. She said Oakland likely will mandate energy-efficient lighting, give preference to bidders who put solar panels on the roofs of their warehouses, and require that the farms offer "community benefits" packages to the city.

Kaplan said she did not include such mandates in the new law approved by the council last week because of a request by the **Oakland City Attorney's Office**. The city attorney noted that if the city decided to later adjust the mandates — to either strengthen or weaken them or add new ones — it would require a cumbersome process of getting the council to reapprove the law. As a result, the city plans to proffer a set of administrative regulations that will govern the pot farms.

The **Berkeley City Council**, by contrast, decided to include environmental mandates on its new large medical cannabis growing operations should voters approve them on the November ballot. The council has asked voters to approve six large medical cannabis growing operations in West Berkeley. Each would be up to 30,000 square feet in size, or about two-thirds the size of a football field.

The farms, however, could become bigger if two or more of the growing operations combine into a single giant space, said Berkeley Mayor **Tom Bates**. In that case, the industrialized grows could rival the ones coming to Oakland. "They're going to require a huge amount of energy," Bates noted. "They're going to be a huge drain on our electrical system."

Because solar panels are expected to have so little impact on energy use at the indoor farms, the Berkeley council decided to include in the ballot measure a mandate that the growing operations "provide for an energy offset" equal to the amount of extra electricity the farms consume compared to other similarly sized industrial uses. Bates explained that the farms will be required to pay into a fund that Berkeley will use to plant trees and finance energy-efficiency measures in low-income residences throughout the city. That way, the new pot farms won't increase Berkeley's overall greenhouse-gas emissions.

The Berkeley council also wrote into its ballot measure a provision requiring the large farms to "use organic methods in cultivation and processing to the maximum extent possible." It's a nasty little secret in the medical marijuana world that many growers spray their plants liberally with pesticides — not unlike much the rest of the US agricultural industry.

Like Oakland, Berkeley plans to solicit bids for the new cultivation operations, and Bates said that the city will give preference to bidders who promise to employ organic growing methods. Kaplan said Oakland also plans to give preference to organic operations. The city also plans to require catchment systems for wastewater runoff, she said.

Jeff Wilcox, founder of **AgraMed**, a nonprofit that plans to bid to become one of Oakland's big growers, said his warehouse next to Interstate 880 will be **LEED** certified. He also plans to install solar panels, possibly use an onsite natural gas generator, and stay away from pesticides. "The goal," he said, "should be to do as little damage as possible to the environment."

Berkeley, meanwhile, also plans to encourage bidders to consider outdoor growing operations that use virtually no energy at all. Bates believes that the rooftops of large warehouses could be suitable for big grows. Oakland, by contrast, plans to discourage outdoor grows because of crime concerns.

Many medical cannabis growers prefer cultivating indoors because they have much more control over growing operations. Nearly all Oakland producers grow indoors. They also believe it gives them a more marketable product, said **Dale Gieringer** of **NORML**, who supports outdoor growing. "Indoor growing uses a ton of energy," he said, "but everybody in the business tells me you can't sell outdoor pot — that it doesn't look good enough, you can't get the little bud package that looks cute." ●

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LEGALIZATION NATION

POLITICS AND PROFITS DIVIDE OAKLAND MEDICAL POT PROVIDERS

Harborside's Stephen DeAngelo has a falling out with ex-partner Jeff Wilcox over giant pot farms.

By David Downs

A popular dispensary owner has found himself at odds with his long-time peers, city officials, and former business associates at a time when Oakland has made an historic move to allow the country's first large-scale commercial medical cannabis cultivation farms.

The **Oakland City Council** voted last week to license four football-field sized indoor grows by January 2011 and supply up to one-fifth of the state's medicinal pot, taxing the product to net millions of dollars per year. But the cultivation permitting regime has illuminated stark rifts in Oakland's medical cannabis community, which outsiders tend to view as being cohesive.

Leading dispensary **Harborside Health Center** and owner **Stephen DeAngelo** spoke against the cultivation ordinance, alongside fellow Oakland dispensary the **Purple Heart Patient Center**. On the other side: Oaksterdam owner **Richard Lee** whose businesses include the **Coffeshop Blue Sky** dispensary as well as other growers, and local landowner **Jeff Wilcox** — a former business associate of DeAngelo and Harborside's neighbor.

DeAngelo spoke on behalf of perhaps 250 local growers who supply Harborside and feel threatened by the rules, which would initially push growers into two camps: those under 96 square-feet that will not require a permit, and large football field-sized facilities which will need a permit.

"I think that the medical cannabis community is united on all of our core issues," DeAngelo said. "Now the question is no longer 'Is cannabis going to be legal?' It's changed to 'How is cannabis going to be legal?'"

The differences can be wide. As traditional market forces begin to exert themselves on the once-marginalized illicit drug, a spectrum of reformers has emerged, from pragmatic capitalists on one end, to idealistic longtime radicals on another. This spread is evident in the once-close relationship between Wilcox and DeAngelo, who are now estranged. The two worked together for months devising a plan for large commercial grows in Oakland, but had a falling out over control of the facility and have begun airing their differences in public.

Harborside Health Center has possibly the biggest pot club on the West Coast and wants to get into the cultivation side of the industry but lacks the space on site at its waterfront location. Wilcox has acres and acres of light industrial-zoned land near Harborside and wants to get into growing legal medical cannabis.

DeAngelo said he can't say for sure why the two parted ways late last year. Wilcox has said that DeAngelo wanted too much control over the enterprise, while he wants to allow multitudes to come in and work his space for a fee. "I was, like, 'No, no, no this is a regional thing,'" Wilcox said.

DeAngelo's push for control of cultivation at Wilcox's site came from two assumptions which are now to be issues of debate. The first one was that state law requires grows to be associated with specific patients in collectives or cooperatives.

Simply put, growers need to be able to produce a patient list to justify their grows under **Prop. 215** and **SB 420**. Some enforcement in California is so strict, growers put individual labels on each plant stating who the plant is being grown for. Harborside has such a patient list, but Wilcox might not need it after all.

Oakland has taken state law and interpreted it quite liberally over the years, DeAngelo said. Permitting big grows without the legal paperwork proving who the plants are for would be a cutting-edge interpretation of state law. Some experts, including **Dale Gieringer** at **NORML**, say Oakland would violate both federal and state law at that point, thereby inviting a **DEA** raid. Similar raids of permitted city grows in Mendocino already have occurred. "It's absolutely critical we be in strict compliance with state law," DeAngelo said. "Cultivation on this magnitude is a huge challenge to the DEA. They will be all over this, looking at it very closely and if they can justify a departure from Obama's policy they will go after Oakland."

DeAngelo's second assumption was that the city would allow dispensaries to get large-scale cultivation permits. But that is now unclear. Currently, dispensaries have a permit to cultivate on site, but none have the space to do so. Councilmember **Larry Reid**, a principle architect of the cultivation ordinance, has adamantly stated that no dispensaries shall get cultivation permits, claiming he wants to prevent a "monopoly" on the industry. Other councilmembers have disagreed with Reid. "I can't imagine what justification there could possibly be for prohibiting a non-profit organization of patients for getting a cultivation permit," DeAngelo said. (See "Is It Legal to Tax Large Pot Farms?" on page 38.)

Council consensus on dispensaries getting cultivating permits remains unclear, as well as exactly how or if the city will justify large-scale cultivation under state law. The city might choose to deal with both issues and many, many others through administrative regulations developed in the months ahead.

Seeds & Stems

An attempt to allow the trademarking of cannabis names ended last week. A patent-office spokesman told the *Wall Street Journal* they had opened up trademarking in a new medical cannabis-specific category for ninety days and received more than 250 trademark applications for "**Turtukan Death Weed**," "**Pot-N-Candy**" and numerous businesses incorporating "**Green**" and "**4.20**." The **US Patent Office** then canceled the category. Citizens may still apply to get uncategorized, pot-specific trademarks, but no pot trademarks have ever actually been granted. ●

David.Downs@gmail.com

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This column is culled from our blog of the same name.

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RICHMOND CAN'T DECIDE WHAT TO DO ABOUT POT

The city council votes to permit an unlimited number of dispensaries as the city attorney tries to shut them down

By Alex Weber

A new law passed by the **Richmond City Council** authorizing an unlimited number of medical cannabis dispensaries appears to conflict with prior legal injunctions against Richmond's eight pot clubs. The situation is creating an awkward limbo-state for dispensary employees and calling into question continued access for patients.

The injunctions, filed by the **Richmond City Attorney's Office**, could conceivably force all of the city's current dispensaries out of business before the law approved by the council last week goes into full effect. If that were to happen, then medical pot patients in Richmond would have to travel to Berkeley or Oakland to buy cannabis.

Richmond City prosecutor **Trisha Aljoe** said she plans to move forward with the injunctions against the existing dispensaries. "At this point, all of the dispensaries are still operating in violation of current law," Aljoe said, citing the fact that according to city zoning law, pot clubs are out of bounds, and noting that many of the dispensary operators were less than straightforward on their permit applications.

"A marijuana dispensary is not a legal use in this city," Aljoe said, referring to Richmond law prior to the council's vote Tuesday night. "Plus, they're operating without the proper license. The new ordinance won't even be implemented until there's some sort of infrastructure [to issue permits] in place. Until then, you can't operate in violation of the law. Besides, it still has to pass the second reading."

The ordinance approved by the council allows for an unlimited number of medical pot collectives licensed by the city manager — or his designee — and permitted in any commercial district without "buffer" requirements, meaning that various dispensaries may be located close to one another, according to the ordinance's author and Richmond City Attorney's office staffer **Mary Renfro**. Councilman **Tom Butt** called it "the most liberal and wide-open pot ordinance in the state of California — maybe the whole country."

Jay Newell, a partner at one of Richmond's dispensaries, the **Golden State Health Center**, said he was pleased with the council's 4-3 vote in favor of the new ordinance. However, he said he still fears that his livelihood and the health of his customers are in jeopardy. "It's better than what we had before," he said. "But they didn't come out and say they'd stop the lawsuits. I applaud their willingness to do something, but I don't think patients should suffer because city management doesn't follow the instructions of city council." ●

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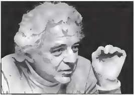
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The World Teacher's emergence and the role of UFOs

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Toño in a Mexican prison

GUILTY UNTIL PROVEN INNOCENT

A UC Berkeley Ph.D. student impugns Mexico's penal system

By Rachel Swan

In December 2005, Mexican police apprehended a young street vendor and young rapper named **José Antonio Zúñiga Rodríguez** (better known by his nickname, Toño). They arrived unannounced at Toño's home, put the young man in handcuffs, and sent him off to the notorious **Reclusorio Oriente**. Toño spent three days in the center for observation and classification — a small, cramped cell where inmates sleep standing up. Later he would move to another more permanent living assignment, a twenty-person cage infested with cockroaches. Toño slept under a bunk bed called "La Tumba." Bugs crawled into his clothes and slithered over his skin. He had no idea of his rights.

It turned out that Toño was arrested in connection with a homicide that occurred several blocks from the kiosk where he hawked video games and fixed computers. He was not served a warrant — apparently the majority of Mexican prisoners never see one (93 percent, according to UC Berkeley Ph.D. student **Roberto Hernández**). He was convicted on flimsy evidence. A gunpowder test failed to incriminate him, a prosecutorial witness couldn't describe him accurately, other witnesses said they'd seen Toño at his kiosk at the time of the murder. Like many other Mexican prisoners, Toño became the protagonist in a Kafkaesque storyline.

Such is the reality of the Mexican penal system, says Hernández, who gravitated to criminal law after his wife **Layda Negrete** (also a UC Berkeley grad student) co-conducted a survey of three thousand inmates. Working in conjunction with the **National Center for State Courts**, Negrete interviewed samplings of the Mexican prison population in 2000, 2004, and 2009. She found that many of them were locked up on frivolous charges. Fifty-two percent said they would have gotten off had they paid a bribe. Ninety-two percent were convicted on witness testimony alone. Seldom are these convictions substantiated by physical evidence. "I think it's just a rubber-stamping court," Hernández said during a recent phone interview. "They will just go with anything the prosecution presents to them."

Born in the northeastern Mexico state of Nuevo León, Hernández got his law degree in Mexico City. He litigated environmental cases for several years, before immigrating to Berkeley to pursue a Ph.D. in public policy. As a lawyer in Mexico, Hernández said his perception of the country's judicial system was murky at best. He'd learned by memorizing legislation rather than visiting an actual courtroom. Such is typical of Mexican lawyers, and of the population at large, he said. "We're exposed to US legal culture through shows like *Law and Order*," Hernández explained. "Even Mexico's telenovelas will make up a courtroom where you have a judge and a hammer. No Mexican knows what the hell is going on until you get arrested."

When Negrete first showed Hernández her data about the Mexican penal system, he was shocked — so shocked that he switched fields. The two then launched a personal crusade against judicial corruption. In 2006 they released a short film called *El Túnel*, which mixed short sound bites with damning statistics pointing to a lack of due process in Mexico. It screened internationally, won several awards, and landed on the front page of Mexican newspapers. Toño's friends heard about it. They enjoined Toño to contact Hernández and ask for legal help. Thus the husband-and-wife team entangled themselves in a new case that brought them inside the dark antechambers of Reclusorio Oriente. Amazingly, Hernández managed to obtain — and film — a retrial for Toño.

That retrial became the heart of Negrete and Hernández's new documentary ***Presumed Guilty (Presunto Culpable)***, which follows Toño's battle with the Mexican justice system from December of 2005 to the summer of 2009. Voted "Best Bay Area Documentary" at this year's **San Francisco International Film Festival**, it runs online through August 4 as part of **PBS POV** series (PBS.org/POV). Produced by lawyers rather than bona fide directors, the film lacks artistic pretension but still builds a persuasive case.

To any viewer from the United States, the Mexican court system will seem absolutely surreal. In this case, the only eyewitness was a gang member and cousin of the murder victim. The prosecutor submitted her entire deposition on a floppy disc. Accused of mishandling evidence and using excessive force against Toño, a detective stated that he "did not remember." Toño sat in a barred cage with a tiny window that allowed him to peer into the courtroom. When Reyes approached the cage to be cross-examined, the judge had to stand between them, translating both parts of their dialogue. A court stenographer typed frantically.

No tape recorders are allowed in Mexican courtrooms, and transcripts are usually subjective, Hernández said. "It's not an objective record," he explained. Judges often make subtle changes while translating people's testimony. They'll change questions, omit words, and alter meanings. "And if it's not on the record," Hernández said, "the judge won't use it in his verdict."

That might explain why 95 percent of verdicts are returned guilty, he said, citing a report from **the Census of the Federal District Supreme Court of Justice**.

Access is what makes *Presumed Guilty* such a remarkable film. Toño allowed Negrete and Hernández to read his court file, which allowed them to request a retrial in the first place — after they discovered that the original defense attorney had forged his lawyer's license. Once the retrial was granted, Hernández persuaded the judge to let his film crew into the courtroom. By dint of an administrative error, the directors got full access to the Reclusorio, which gave them all the shots that would glue the film together. They showed what the insides of those overcrowded cells looked like. They filmed Toño breakdancing in the prison yard, and kissing his wife at a communal prison wedding.

Midway through filming, Hernández got so obsessed with absolving Toño that he and Negrete broke from their role as film producers and joined the defense team. They felt no compunction about it, and continued documenting the case. Thus, *Presumed Guilty* proceeds in the present tense, with a certain immediacy that you don't see in a traditional documentary. The important film is void of talking heads, superfluous backstory, or decorative montages.

But Hernández wasn't going for drama. He sees himself as a muckraker. "Mexicans don't ask for better justice, and this is happening everywhere," he said. "I want this film to incite a movement." ●

Show Info

Find Presunto Culpable at PresuntoCulpable.org or PBS.org/POV/video

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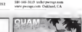

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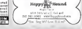

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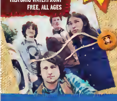

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Robert Ashley in his bedroom studio

Joseph Schell

CULTURE

ROBERT ASHLEY'S LIFE WELL WASTED

The Berkeley podcaster gives video gamers the public radio treatment.

By Neal Soldofsky

A Life Well Wasted, by Berkeley podcaster **Robert Ashley**, is hardly the only internet radio show devoted to video games. But it must be the only one regularly compared by fans to **Public Radio International's** beloved radio program ***This American Life***. Its more-than-polished production values invite the association. The true clincher is *A Life Well Wasted's* focus not on video games per se, but on the quirks, fascinations, and daily lives of the people who play them.

In one episode, we visit an East Bay game developer with a personal gaming museum hidden in his basement. He leads us through a small hole in the floor, down a precarious ladder, and into a subterranean room filled with joysticks hanging from the walls, a host of vintage arcade machines ready to play, and shelves full of games from countless platforms — plenty of which were never actually released. Later he explains how he learned to program his own games over the course of a few trips to K Mart.

In another, we hear from a woman who designs computer chips and once made a purse that's also a portable **Nintendo Entertainment System**, the eight-bit home-gaming console that debuted in the United States in 1985. (Living up to the podcast's promise of unique characters, she also revealed some nongaming endeavors such as building her own race car and joining the roller derby with the intention of getting into fights.)

But Robert Ashley does more than document gamers and gaming culture. He also asks big questions. In an episode titled "Why Game?" Ashley attempts to figure out why people are willing to invest so much time and money in games and what exactly they get from their investment. Ashley begins simply by asking people the title question while wandering the halls at a game developers conference. At first, the answers are unsatisfying: "Because it's fun," responds more than one person. "It's something to do in your spare time," another says.

In addition to the more shallow answers, we get a big helping of depressing ones: "It helps me to forget about my life ... my horrible life," answers one man. A score of others say they play games in order to "escape reality."

Still others strike the balance between pain and pleasure. Some game developers tell Ashley that video game violence can be therapeutic. That video games immerse you in other worlds. That they allow you to do things you otherwise can't, like save the planet or get rich. And strangely enough, they let you feel like you've actually accomplished something.

That last point strikes a chord with Ashley. "That's the secret sauce," Ashley said in an online interview. "One of the reasons I think gaming is so popular with my generation and the people younger than me is that we were all brought up with this ideal that we would go to college and become super successful. Obviously everyone isn't going to live up to that ideal. You come home from your shitty job or take a break from your complicated relationship problems and you vacation in a world with really achievable goals.

"You always know what you need to do in a game," Ashley continued. "And when you do it, the game goes out of its way to pat you on the back: Hurray for you! Gold star!" Striving for such immaterial recognition may strike some as unfortunate, but Ashley feels otherwise.

"I don't think it's an unhealthy escapism," he said. "Real accomplishment is pretty elusive. Even when I do get something done, I don't feel a lot of catharsis. Certainly not like when I hear that chiming sound in Zelda that tells you when you've solved a puzzle. That is knowable progress."

Ashley produces the entire show by himself, painstakingly stringing together interviews, his own commentary, and electronic music made by his band, **I Come to Shanghai**. He does all this in his bedroom studio. "I probably spent twenty hours on that first episode," he said. "The last two have [taken] around 120 hours. I started inflating my expectations. I wanted to have original music for each episode. I wanted to have lots of big audio set pieces, musical moments in the story. I'm having a little arms race with myself."

That arms race often results in a strange hybrid between documentary and music, as well as a long wait between episodes. *A Life Well Wasted* has been around since January 2009, and in that time Ashley has released a mere six episodes. "I do wish I could get them out more frequently," he said. "If I could do it once a month, I think it would take off. People like regularity." Fortunately, plenty of the podcast's followers seem to be willing to settle for something a little more sporadic. Episode five, titled "Help," has been downloaded more than 50,000 times.

"New episodes are slow to come out," acknowledged **Keith McNally**, one of Ashley's regular listeners and a fellow podcaster, "but each one seems like something worth hanging on to and worth listening to multiple times."

Ashley got his start as a freelance writer for video game magazines like ***Electronic Gaming Monthly*** and ***Computer Gaming World***. "I was flying all over the world writing stories for the magazines," he said. "It was a lot of fun. Nothing makes you feel successful like international air travel. I went to the Ukraine, Poland, China twice, Poland, lots of places." Ashley's charge was to visit game studios and write stories about the games they were working on — but only games, not people. "I would meet all of these interesting people, but the magazines only cared about the games. They wanted boring nerdy details. Like, what kind of guns can you shoot?" Ashley's frustration with this process eventually led to the birth of *A Life Well Wasted*.

The show is available for free online. Ashley never asks for donations, but he does sell posters. **Olly Moss**, a graphic designer based in Los Angeles, designs a poster for each episode. A friend of Ashley's in Austin then screen-prints runs of 200, and Ashley hand-numbers them, then sells them, usually for $25 a piece. "Then I spend a week stuffing tubes and staring at a spread sheet," he said. "It would be a pretty good living if I could get it more regularly. It's enough to support me and pay for some traveling for interviews."

Granted, there are a few things he doesn't have to go far to see. Alameda's **Lucky Ju Ju Pinball**, for example, was featured in the second episode. "My housemate Sam was dating some girl and she took him to Ju Ju," Ashley recalled. "He came back and told me, 'Man, there's this pinball place in Alameda where you can play all the pinball you want for ten bucks.'" Ashley says it's still one of his favorite Friday night outings.

While Ashley may be said to occasionally exploit the eccentricities of his subjects, he's not afraid to turn the spotlight back on himself. "I was a total freak as a kid, tons of social problems," he said. "Some of my best moments are of laying down in front of the TV in the air conditioning on a really hot day, playing these simple old games. When you're a kid, you have no control over what happens to you. The universe is cruel and arbitrary. Games, for me, were really empowering." ●

To share this story, type: eby.ly.ac/lifewellwasted

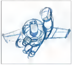
Editor@EastBayExpress.com

EVENTS & ATTRACTIONS

Animation and Artistry

Shedding light on Pixar's rich history

In 1986, **Steve Jobs** and **Ed Catmull** founded **Pixar** — then just a tiny company that began as an outgrowth of **Lucasfilm** and primarily focused on selling high-end software, with a small side-business in computer animation. This was almost 25 years ago, when computers were still big and prohibitively expensive for most users, when the cutting edge meant traditional Disney-style cel animation, and when nobody had ever heard of CGI. The fledgling company had 44 employees. Now, Emeryville's own animation studio has produced eleven feature films, racked up 22 Oscars, become one of the most consistently critically acclaimed film studios of all time, and completely revolutionized animation.



Buzz Lightyear.

Pixar: 25 Years of Animation — opening this week as the first major special exhibition in the newly redone **Oakland Museum of California** (1000 Oak Street, Oakland) — traces this transformation with over 500 paintings, drawings, sculptures, and storyboards. These date from the studio's earliest days through the present and range from crude line-drawings of well-loved characters to masterful, detailed watercolors of the universes they inhabit. The exhibition, which first opened at New York's **Museum of Modern Art** five years ago, also includes behind-the-scenes video, a series of workshops and lectures with animators, and two room-size installations — one, a thirty-foot digital projection, and the other, a sort of 21st-century zoetrope. It's part art show, part history exhibit — which, according to director **Lori Fogarty**, makes it an ideal fit for the museum, which is dedicated to the state's history. Animation has, after all, been in California's blood since **Walt Disney**, and part of the idea behind the exhibition was, she said, to "directly make the connection between Pixar and their artistry and what the museum's about, which is California." She continued: "Pixar is working from a long-standing tradition — California and the Bay Area have such a long history of innovative and technical filmmaking."

But, she said, it's not all zeros and ones. "I think people have an idea of animation, and especially animation at Pixar, that all of the artwork is done by computer artists staring at computers," Fogarty said. "But the greatness of Pixar is not just the technology. It's the artistry. I mean, some of these look like **Vermeer** paintings."

In that sense, by bringing the likes of **Buzz Lightyear** and *Ratatouille*'s **Remy** to the museum circuit, the show's curators accomplish something rare: They honor animation as art and pay respect to a group of people who all too often are relegated to tiny print toward the end of the credits. "All these artists are not usually recognized," Fogarty said. "And now they get to have their work in a museum." *Pixar: 25 Years of Animation* runs July 31 through January 9. $1.50-$12. 510-238-2200 or MuseumCA.org.

— *Ellen Cushing*

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ATTRACTIONS

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Newark Library Little Sale With hardcover and paperback books of all genres, as well as toys and ... Fri., July 30, 10 a.m.-8 p.m., Sat., July 31, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Free. Newark Library, 6300 Civic Terrace Ave., Newark. 510-795-2627.

Oakland Artisan Marketplace Featuring handmade jewelry, sculptures, ceramics, portfolio photography, ... clothing, floral arrangements, greeting cards and more. Info: 888-218-4839. Fridays, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Free. Frank Ogawa Plaza, at 14th and Broadway sts., Oakland.

Adult Drop-in Sports Schedule Monday: lunchtime table tennis, and volleyball 12-2 p.m. Tuesday: basketball 6:30-8:30 a.m. and 12-2 p.m. Wednesday: basketball and volleyball 12-2 p.m. Thursday: volleyball 6:30-8:30 a.m. and 12-2 p.m. Friday: pickleball, table tennis and basketball 12-2 p.m. Saturday: 7-9 p.m. Sunday (1st and 3rd): basketball and pickleball 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Sunday (2nd and 4th): badminton and table tennis 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Daily. Robert Livermore Community Center, 4444 East Ave., Livermore. 925-373-5700.

Playland's Time Machine: 1960 With fifties music and attractions, in addition to Playland's usual offerings. Sat., July 31, 10 a.m.-8 p.m., Sun., Aug. 1, 10 a.m.-8 p.m. $10-$15. Playland-Not-at-the-Beach, 10979 San Pablo Ave., El Cerrito. PlaylandNotattheBeach.org.

Aikido Oakland For info, visit ... Saturdays, 9:30 a.m., Mondays, 8 p.m. Continues through Dec. 31. $40/mo for 2 classes per week, $70/mo for three classes per week. Live Oak Center, 1301 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 510-...

Concord Table Tennis Club Open to everyone. Open play, training and tournament Sundays, 10:30am to 2:30. Open play, training & tournament Sundays 10:30am-2:30pm. Open play and training Mondays 7pm-10pm. Open play and ... Tuesdays 7:30pm-10:30pm. Tournament 6:25pm-12:25pm Thursdays. Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, Sundays, 10:30 a.m.-10:15 p.m. $3-$7. Pleasant Hill Adventist Academy gymnasium, 796 Grayson Road, Pleasant Hill.

Redwood Valley Railway Twelve-minute scenic journey by steam train through the redwoods of Tilden Regional Park. Info: 510-548-6100. Saturdays, Sundays, 11 a.m.-6 p.m. $2 per ticket, or 5 tickets for $8. Tilden Regional Park, Entrances off Wildcat Canyon Rd. and Grizzly Peak Blvd., Berkeley. 510-843-2137. EBParks.org/Parks/Tilden.

Screening and Live Show of *The Rocky Horror Picture Show* Midnight screening of the cult classic, with live cast, lingerie contest, prizes, and more. Sat., July 31, 11:40 p.m. $10. Grand Lake Gardens, 3200 Grand Ave., Oakland. 510-452-3556. RenaissanceRialto.com/current/grandlake.htm.

Ladies Night Revisit the latest ... for women. Info: 510-848-7373 ex. 110. Wednesdays, 5:30 p.m. $19 to walk, $35 for a cart. $5 of each purchase will benefit the American Heart Association. Tilden Park Golf Course, 10 Golf Course Dr., Berkeley. 510-848-7373. TildenParkGC. AmericanGolf.com.

University of California Botanical Garden See plants you won't find anywhere else — more than 13,000 varieties, ... Free docent tours Thursdays, Saturdays, and Sundays at 1:30 p.m. Open daily 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Free admission on the first Thursday of every month. Daily. University of California Botanical Garden, 200 Centennial Dr., Berkeley. 510-643-2755. BotanicalGarden.Berkeley.edu.

Lunchtime Drop-in Gym Special Head over to RLCC Gym, 4444 East Ave., Livermore, for a lunchtime special. $30 for a 20-visit pass, or $2.50 per visit. Info: 925-373-5720. Mondays-Fridays, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

ALL-STAR OAKLAND LINEUP!
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En Vogue, Tony! Toni! Toné!, Kev Choice, Martin Luther, Sik E, Pop Lyfe
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Free Outdoor Concerts Every Wednesday from 12-1pm on the City Center Plaza Stage
JUNE
2 Scone Stylist (Michael Jackson Tribute)
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23 Zydeco Flames (Zydeco)
30 Pal Bailador (Salsa)
JULY
7 Joe Bagale (Soul)
14 Club 90 (90's Pop)
21 Fito Reinoso (Cuban)
28 Blackberry Soup (Dance)
AUGUST
4 Ben Mercato (Swing)
11 Ritmojito (Latin)
18 Crystal Monee Hall (Pop/Jazz)
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All event dates, times, and entertainment subject to change.

[illegible] Golf Group Membership [illegible] Metropolitan Golf Links, 10051 Doolittle Dr., Oakland. 510-569-5555, PlayMetro.com.

FAIRS, FESTIVALS & FIESTAS

Berkeley Kite [illegible] July 31-Aug. 1, [illegible] free. [illegible] Berkeley.

Metropolitan Golf Links Chipping and Putting Clinic [illegible] Metropolitan Golf Links, 10051 Doolittle Dr., Oakland. 510-569-5555, PlayMetro.com.

[illegible] Outrigger Canoe Club 30th Anniversary Luau With [illegible] music, and dance [illegible] Sun., Aug. 1, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. $35. Jack London Aquatic Center, 115 Embarcadero, Oakland. [illegible] JLAC.org.

[illegible] Friedman [illegible] Fundraiser Celebration in honor of [illegible] Friedman, one of the College's faculty members, who was recently diagnosed with lung cancer. Sun., Aug. 1, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. [illegible] Acupuncture and Integrative Medicine College, 2550 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. [illegible] www.aimc.edu.

[illegible] Golf Links Pitching and [illegible] Clinic [illegible] Metropolitan Golf Links, 10051 Doolittle Dr., Oakland. [illegible] PlayMetro.com.

KIDS

[illegible] Softball Noncompetitive [illegible] pitch pickup softball. Saturdays, 12-2:30 p.m. [illegible] Park, 8300 [illegible] Ave., Oakland. 510-238-7275, [illegible]

Pax [illegible] Bike Team Weekly Bike Ride Leisurely 15-25-mile ride up Tunnel Road and through the Berkeley Hills. [illegible] 6 p.m., free. Nomad Cafe, 6500 Shattuck Ave., Oakland. 510-595-5344, NomadCafe.net.

Roc-N-Bowl Mondays, 10 p.m., $1.50 per game. Albany Bowl, 540 San Pablo Ave., Albany. 510-526-8818, AlbanyBowl.net.

[illegible] [illegible]

PICKS

Jim Morrison Look-Alike Contest

The city of Alameda is well known for its cute Victorians, small town feel and general wholesomeness, but it also was the (brief) home of one of rock music's most raucous personalities, Doors frontman Jim Morrison, who lived on the Island for three years while his father was stationed at the Navy base. On Saturday, July 31, fans are invited to honor him by pulling out their leather pants and best brooding-artist expressions for the Alameda Farmers' Market's (Haight Ave. at Webster St., Alameda) Jim Morrison Look-Alike Contest. The event — which also will include a reading of poetry by and about Morrison — is part of the island's ongoing Summer Site Write poetry celebration. Noon-2 p.m., free. 510-523-5980 or [illegible] — *Ellen Cushing*

Hog Heaven III

Religious custom and cholesterol overload aside, pork is decidedly delicious — and, lately, the subject of much foodie fetishism, popping up with increasing frequency on trendy menus all over the Bay Area. The folks at **Pasta Shop** (1786 Fourth Street, Berkeley) are devoting an entire afternoon to porcine pleasures with a head-spinning, mouth-watering set of **demos and tastings**. Highlights include a talk from **Ari Weinzweig**, author of 2009's ***Guide to Better Bacon***, and **Scott Brennan**, lead butcher at **Café Rouge**, who will be leading a demonstration on Bratwurst. There will, of course, also be all kinds of pork products available for sample and sale from several local restaurants and butchers. 1-4 p.m., free. 510-250-6004 or *PastaShop.net* — *E.C.*

Bay Area Vintage Baseball

The **Oakland Colonels** may be glad to be wearing heavy flannel uniforms on Sunday,

August 1, when they travel to **Big Rec Field at Golden Gate Park** (750 Lincoln Way, San Francisco) for a game against their cross-bay rivals, the **San Francisco Pacifics**. The Colonels are part of the **Bay Area Vintage Base Ball** league (that's how they spelled the game back in the 19th century) and currently reign as defending champions, having copped the crown in 2009. The players, rules, and entire atmosphere are designed to faithfully recall an era when fielders hardly wore gloves, and the batsmen rarely used profanity. Noon, free. [illegible] — *Kibby Kleiman*

Recreational swim, [illegible] and other [illegible] Saturdays, 7:30 p.m. [illegible] Creek. [illegible]

[illegible] Frontrunners A 1-5 mile run starting at [illegible] Saturdays, 8 a.m., Free. [illegible]

SPORTS-SPECTATOR

The Bay Area Derby Girls Present...The Good, The B.A.D. and the Ugly The Oakland [illegible] take on [illegible] Port City Roller Girls [illegible] Sat., July 31, 6-9:30 p.m. $10 advance, $12 at the door. Craneway Pavilion, 1414 Harbour Way South, Richmond. www.craneway.com/

Oakland A's Vs. Kansas City Royals Mon., Aug. 2, 7:05 p.m.; Tue., Aug. 3, 7:05 p.m.; Wed., Aug. 4, 1:05 p.m. $9-$200. Coliseum, 7000 Coliseum Wy., Oakland.

Art [illegible] with [illegible] Ages 8-18 can learn to draw, work with clay [illegible] Saturdays, 10 a.m.-noon. $5. NIAD Art Center, 551 23rd St., Richmond. 510-620-0290, NIADart.org.

[illegible] of the Bay [illegible] about the Bay, its wildlife and [illegible] history. Saturdays, Sundays, 2-3 p.m. Continues through Aug. 31. Free. Crab Cove, 1252 McKay Ave., Alameda. 510-562-PARK, EBParks.org.

Children's Fairyland Weekend [illegible] Featuring arts and crafts, puppet shows, children's theater [illegible] Saturdays, 11 a.m.; Sundays, 11 a.m. $8. Children's Fairyland, 699 Bellevue Ave. (at Lake Merritt), Oakland. 510-452-2259, Fairyland.org.

Color My World A creativity workshop for kids, grades 2-12. [illegible] Fridays, 4:15-6 p.m. $15/session or $50/four sessions. Frank Bette Center for the Arts, 1601 Paru St., Alameda. 510-523-6957, FrankBetteCenter.org.

[illegible] European Martial Arts Stephen Fick leads a workshop [illegible] swords, daggers, [illegible] For 6th-12th-graders only. Tue., Aug. 3, 1:30 p.m. Free. Hayward Public Library, [illegible] 27300 Patrick Ave., Hayward. [illegible] library.hayward-ca.gov.

[illegible] European [illegible] Arts Stephen Fick leads a workshop [illegible] swords, daggers, [illegible] For 6th-12th-graders only. Tue., Aug. 3, 3:30 p.m. Free. Hayward Public Library, 835 C St., Hayward. [illegible] library.hayward-ca.gov.

Early Literacy Night Stories, rhymes, and [illegible] for young readers. First Monday of every month, 5:30-6:30 p.m. Free. Oakland Public Library, Martin Luther King Jr. Branch, 6833 International Blvd., Oakland. 510-615-5728, OaklandLibrary.org.

[illegible] [illegible] city's [illegible] youth [illegible] READY, and more. Daily.

[illegible] Girls Inc. program [illegible] Thursdays, 3:30-5:30 p.m. Girls Inc., Meyers Center, Alameda. [illegible]

Fish Feeding Time See [illegible] Saturdays, 3:30 p.m.; Sun., Aug. 29, 3-3:30 p.m. Continues through Aug. 31. Free. Crab Cove, 1252 McKay Ave., Alameda. 510-562-PARK, EBParks.org.

Get Your [illegible] Gaming With PlayStation3 and Wii games on a projector screen. Wed., July 28, 3:30 p.m. Free. Hayward Public Library, 835 C St., Hayward. [illegible] library.hayward-ca.gov.

[illegible] Open house [illegible] Fri., July 30, [illegible] Walnut Creek.

[illegible] Self Defense for Girls Certified instructor [illegible] for girls aged 10-18, [illegible]

[illegible] tae bo, yoga, [illegible] Tuesdays, 6:15-7:15 p.m. [illegible] Albany. [illegible]

Lakeview Group Park Facilitated by [illegible] Tuesdays, 3:30-5:30 p.m. [illegible] Lakeview Branch, 550 El Embarcadero, Oakland. [illegible] OaklandLibrary.org.

Livermore Area [illegible] and Park District [illegible] Call 925-960-2400 for more info. [illegible] Livermore Community Center, 4444 E. Ave. Livermore.

Math Help Bring your math homework or questions to the library's [illegible] Saturdays, 2-4 p.m. [illegible] Eastmont [illegible] Suite 211, Oakland. [illegible] OaklandLibrary.org.

[illegible] Theater Sing-Along [illegible] Tuesdays, 6:15 p.m. $4.95 [illegible] $2 for each additional sibling; free for Adults and Infants. [illegible] Cafe, 4210 Telegraph Ave., Oakland. [illegible]

[illegible] Learn about wildlife [illegible] Ages [illegible] and up. Sat., July 31, 11 a.m.-noon; Sat., Aug. 28, 11 a.m.-noon. Free. Crab Cove, 1252 McKay Ave., Alameda. [illegible]

[illegible] for Kids Beginning classes in [illegible] dance. Saturdays, 9:30-10:30 a.m. [illegible] College of [illegible] Classical Arts, 1834 Delaware St., Berkeley. [illegible]

[illegible] Recreation and Park District The parks district offers health and fitness courses in everything from kickboxing to fencing, [illegible] Daily. [illegible]

[illegible] Recreation and Parks Department [illegible] swimming lessons [illegible] Daily.

SOCIAL EVENTS

[illegible] Costa Singles Convention With a live hypnosis demonstration [illegible] followed by dancing, drinking, and mingling. Sat., July 31, 7:30 p.m.-midnight. $15 advance, $20 at the door. [illegible] Walnut Creek.

[illegible] Hill Senior Center Pancake [illegible] Sun., Aug. 1, 8-11 a.m. $3.50 general, $1.50 5-11 years [illegible] Pleasant Hill Senior Center, 233 Gregory Ln. [illegible] 925-798-8788.

Pleasant Hill [illegible] Center Pancake Breakfast With an all-you-can-eat breakfast. Sun., Aug. 1, 8-11 a.m. [illegible] Pleasant Hill Senior Center, 233 Gregory Ln., Pleasant Hill. 925-798-8788.

[illegible] With wine and light hors d'oeuvres. Fri., July 30, 4-6 p.m. $6 advance, $8 at the door. Pleasant Hill Senior Center, 233 Gregory Ln., Pleasant Hill. 925-798-8788.

Taste of the Vine A variety of red and white wines and light appetizers. Fri., July 30, 4-6 p.m. $8 at the door. [illegible] Pleasant Hill Senior Center, 233 Gregory Ln. Pleasant Hill. 925-798-8788.

SPORTS & OUTDOORS PARTICIPATORY

2010 Tour De Peninsula ("T-D-P") [illegible] [illegible] course [illegible] all ages and skill levels. With childrens' activities, live music [illegible] San Mateo County Parks. Sun., Aug. 1, 7 a.m.-4 p.m. [illegible] Kids 11 and under free; 12-18 year olds $20; Adults 17 and over $40. July 1-July 29: Kids 11 and under free; 12-18 year olds $25; Adults 17 and over $45. Registration for 12 and older [illegible] Coyote Point Park, 1701 Coyote Point Dr., San Mateo.

[illegible] Noncompetitive [illegible] pitch pickup softball. Saturdays, 12-2:30 p.m. [illegible] Park, 8300 [illegible] Ave., Oakland. 510-238-7275, [illegible]

Pax [illegible] Bike Team Weekly Bike Ride Leisurely 15-25-mile ride up Tunnel Road and through the Berkeley Hills. [illegible] 6 p.m., free. Nomad Cafe, 6500 Shattuck Ave., Oakland. 510-595-5344, NomadCafe.net.

SPORTS-SPECTATOR

The Bay Area Derby Girls Present...The Good, The B.A.D. and the Ugly [illegible] Sat., July 31, 6-9:30 p.m. $10 advance, $12 at the door. Craneway Pavilion, 1414 Harbour Way South, Richmond. www.craneway.com/

Oakland A's Vs. Kansas City Royals Mon., Aug. 2, 7:05 p.m.; Tue., Aug. 3, 7:05 p.m.; Wed., Aug. 4, 1:05 p.m. $9-$200. Coliseum, 7000 Coliseum Wy., Oakland.

More Listings Online

Find hundreds of up-to-date Arts listings at **EastBayExpress.com** or **m.EastBayExpress.com**

Submissions for calendar listings should be e-mailed to Calendar@EastBayExpress.com or mailed to Calendar Editor, East Bay Express, 620 3rd St., Oakland, CA, 94607. Deadline is 14 days prior to the event date.

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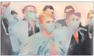
MUSEUMS & GALLERIES



Detail of Alison Offill-Klein's "The Sickness."

Workers' Paradise

The Compound's resident artists put on a show

In a group show entitled ***Compounding***, the artists sharing private and communal studio facilities at the newly expanded **Compound Gallery** exhibit paintings, prints, drawings, sculptures, and mixed-media works. These elude thematic categorization, but share stylistic elements that define the current Zeitgeist: small scale, humble or even scavenged materials, traditional craft processes not generally associated with fine art, a hint of narrative, and an ironic, self-deprecating humor. Everything exhibited in *Compounding* was made on site, in the large work room behind the gallery, so anyone seeking subtexts, back stories, and origin myths (i.e., most of us, to a certain extent) will have fun peeking backstage. What's onstage in the gallery, however, is what's relevant here. The artists include **Julian Birchman, Takehiro Etani, Faye Kendall, Annie Frykholm, Alissa Goss, Norakorn Heuser, Ryan McJunkin, Crystal Morey, Dominic Nguyen, Kerri Lee Johnson, Jaime Lakatos, Sophie Leininger, Jeanne Lorenz, Jocelyn Meggait, Michelle Morby, Alison Offill-Klein, Marie Roach, Lina Verderano Reynoso, Matt Reynoso, Kelsey Robinson, Eric Sanchez, David Spiher,** and **Tallulah Terryll**.

Their figurative or representational works include, in no particular order, Offill-Klein's masked-subject watercolors ("Mummies," "The Sickness"); Robinson's screenprints abstracting natural forms ("Shell Baked by the Sun"); Johnson's nautical-themed drawings on wooden plaques ("Fanny," "Anchor," "Sailor Boy"); Lakatos' mixed-media studies of deer, living and dead ("Chaos Theory II," "Hung Out to Dry"); Birchman's cut-felt cartoon figures ("Gloating," "Butcher"); Morey's droll ceramic female nudes ("Leg Stand," "Water Burial Part II"); Leininger's graphite studies of boats and ships ("Drifting," "Family"); Lorenz's woodcut-like oil painting of a volcanic plume ("Under the Ground It's Already Burning"); McJunkin's female nude by the seashore ("Endless Summer"); Verderano Reynoso's enigmatic history painting ("President Arthur's Anticipation"); and Spiher's roundish-format acrylic painting of backyard miscellanea ("Kayaks").

More abstract or conceptual in approach are Frykholm's paper/porcelain-slip doily ("For My Grandmother"); Goss' armatures of ambiguous identity ("Centipede," "Satellite"); Heiser's untitled micro-macro organic abstractions in distemper on paper; Kendall's found-object fetishes/idols ("Like Swimming," "Poppy"); Reynoso's wooden polygons ("Black Dodecahedron," "5 White Octahedrons"); Terryll's process-based abstractions ("Adeline," "Golden Yarrow"); Meggait's installation of ceramic beads strung into a curtain ("Obsessive Recluse and 83 Bottles of Water"); and Etani's deconstructed tabloid cover, its celebrity catfight participants reduced to eyes peering out from ghostly white burqas through a veil of mock-shocked tabloid prose ("Stars Gazing"). *Compounding* runs through August 8 at **The Compound** (1167 65th St., Oakland). 510-817-4042 or TheCompoundGallery.com.

—DeWitt Cheng

To share this story, type: eby.ly/compound

ART GALLERIES

57th Street Gallery: Army @ Artwork by Armed Artists: With work by Allan Mills, Elise Evans, Donna Carter, and others. Opening reception July 3, 2 pm-7 pm. Tuesdays-Saturdays, 11 a.m. Continues through July 31. Free. 5701 Telegraph Ave., Oakland. 510-654-6074. 57thStreetGallery.com.

ACCI Gallery: 2010 National Juried Exhibition: With work from talented fine artists from all over the nation, selected by Maria Medua, Director, San Francisco Museum of Modern Art's Artist Gallery. Sundays, 12-5 p.m.; Mondays-Saturdays, 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Continues through Aug. 21. 1652 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 510-843-2527. ACCIGallery.com.

Albany Arts Gallery: Silk Paintings by Yoshiko Yamasaki: Tuesdays-Saturdays, 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Continues through July 31. 1258 Solano Ave., Albany. 510-528-9558.

Alphonse Artists Gallery: With: Paintings, carvings, sculptures, and mixed-media constructions by Nathaniel Pasarin. Opening reception July 9, 6pm-9pm. Thursdays-Sundays, 12-6 p.m. Continues through July 31. 2546 Bancroft Wy, Suite B. 510-813-0385.

Amen Gallery: Twice Upon A Time: Everyday Objects Altered as Art: Including quilts, recycled and reused art, and more. Starting Aug. 2. Mondays-Fridays, 10:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Continues through Oct. 31. 2908 Cedar St., Berkeley. 510-845-4840. AmenGallery.com.

Art Institute Gallery & Cultural Center: Paintings by Lori Amend: With an opening reception August 7, 2pm-5pm. Starting Aug. 1. Saturdays-Sundays, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sat., Aug. 7, 2-5 p.m. Continues through Oct. 1. 2905 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 510-412-3815.

Aurora Art, Medium Rare: Drawings and mixed-media work by Joseph Goss and Tony Hoang. Opening reception June 11 at 1 pm. Wednesdays-Sundays, 12-6 p.m. Continues through Aug. 8. Free. 1557 Park Street, Alameda.

Berkeley Art Center: Local Treasures: Featuring artwork of Robert Brady, Squeak Carnwath, Jim Melchert, Katherine Sherwood, Lisa Stein, and Gale Wagner. Through Aug. 8. Free. 1275 Walnut St. (in Live Oak Park), Berkeley. 510-644-6893, BerkeleyArtCenter.org.

Branch Gallery: Everyday Is not The Same: Work by Hadley Williams and Pablo Manga. Thursdays-Saturdays, 12-6 p.m. Continues through Aug. 6. 315 17th St., Ste B301, Oakland. BranchArt.org.

Castle in the Air: Inclement Weather: The Paintings of Linda Simmons: Opening reception June 17, 6 pm-8 pm. Mondays-Sundays, 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Continues through July 31. Free. 1805 Fourth St., Berkeley.

The Compound Gallery: Compounding: Annual Group Show: With work by Alison Offill-Klein, Alissa Goss, Eric Sanchez, Jeanne Lorenz, and others. Opening reception July 10, 6pm-9pm; First Friday Reception, August 6, 7pm-10pm; Closing party, August 8, 3pm-6pm. Thursdays-Sundays, 12-6 p.m. Continues through Aug. 8. 1167 65th Street, Oakland.

Craft and Cultural Arts Gallery: Bridges to Korea: Paintings and mixed media by Michael Gabich. Reception and live drum performance July 15, 5pm-8pm; Artist talk and dance performance by the artist, August 11, 5pm-8pm. Mondays-Fridays, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Continues through Aug. 27. 1515 Clay St., Oakland. 510-622-3980, OaklandCulturalArts.org.

Cricket Engine Studio & Gallery: "All Around Us": Exhibit of painting and music. Opening reception July 23, 7 pm-10 pm. Saturdays, Sundays, 1-6 p.m. Continues through July 31. Free. 4192 Embarcadero, Oakland. 510-395-1820. CricketEngine.org.

The Crucible Gallery of Art: Blue: Group show of work in glass, resin and more by faculty and staff of The Crucible. Artist Reception July 29, 6pm-9pm; First Friday Art Walk August 6, 6pm-9pm; Closing Reception Friday, August 13, 6pm-9pm, with music by Daniel Yoemar & Co. Mondays-Fridays, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.; Fri., Aug. 6, 6-9 p.m.; Fri., Aug. 13, 6-9 p.m. Continues through Aug. 13. Cathedral Building, Oakland. TheCrucible.org/gallery.

Pingpole Art Gallery: Five Artists, Five Perspectives: With work in various media by Rex Bagher, Ed Flores, Pam Pingpole, Donna [illegible] and Sandi Peper. Opening reception July 8 from 7 pm to 9 pm. Thursdays-Saturdays, 12-5:30 p.m. Continues

$5 FRIDAY JULY 30 @ BAM/PFA

GAMELAN SEKAR JAYA

PROGRAMMED BY ARTIST IN RESIDENCE

DAVID WILSON

7:30 PM ★ DOORS/AMBIENT SOUNDS 6 PM ★

BALINESE PERCUSSION FORMATION & DANCERS/LED BY MASTER I DEWA PUTU BERATA

★ PLUS A REEL-TO-REEL A CAPPELLA MIX OF THE BEACH BOYS' *PET SOUNDS* OPENS ★

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DAVID WILSON: GATHERINGS/MATRIX 233

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7 PM JOHN BRAHM (1944, 84 MINS) FROM THE SERIES CRIMINAL MINDS

THE BOSTON STRANGLER VAULT PRINT

8.45 PM RICHARD FLEISCHER (1968; 116 MINS) FROM THE SERIES CRIMINAL MINDS

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Sunday 12 – 6 pm
Labor Day Weekend
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PICKS

Five Artists, Five Perspectives

Rita Bagley, **Pam Fingado**, **Ed Franco**, **Dorian Leigh**, and **Sandi Potter** explore the modernist tradition in this small group show illustrating Rothko's dictum (quoted by Potter) that "Art is an adventure into an unknown world." Bagley paints smoldering abstractions based on nocturnal photographs ("The Night Ride," "Night Lights From the Light House," "East Shore Views From the Light House"). Fingado reinterprets historic photographs in a semi-abstract painting style to explore "time, memory and human absence." Franco's paintings ("I Am I Said," "After the Moldau") are abstract, while his mixed-media prints ("Losing My Mind," "Windmills of Your Mind," "Butterfly") incorporate collaged papers and handwritten song lyrics. Leigh employs automatist scribbling in visualizing the whimsical or nature spirits in her drawing. Listening ... Potter's lyrical "Electric Night Watch" combines "the vast beauty of landscape and the feeling of isolation and aloneness." *Five Artists* runs through August 2nd at **Fingado Art Gallery** (7609 Stockton Ave., El Cerrito), 510-843-6494 or FingadoArtGallery.com. — *DeWitt Cheng*

Medium Rare

T. Joseph Imus and **Tony Hoang** explore the issue of identity in works that mock art's traditional transcendental truths. Their sculptures and assemblage paintings employ impermanent, impertinent, "lowly" materials like aluminum foil and insulation foam ("Hot Dog Heaven," "Frozen Composition Party," "Personal Totem"), while his installation, video, and Belly Prints derive from absurdist performances involving the extrusion of various substances from the navel in a casting of his stomach. Hoang's sewn and collaged works on multiple panels set human faces ("Feel It on My Bones") and animal-headed figures within giddily fanciful towering structures — houses, wiring, piping, ducts, and inflated hairdos. In his sculpture "Left Right 1-2 Right" wedge-shaped leaf forms reminiscent of kites and paper lanterns hover above small, floor-based portrait heads, their eyes blacked out. *Medium Rare* runs through August 8 at **Autobody Fine Art** (1517 Park Ave., Alameda), 510-865-2608 or AutobodyFineArt.com. — *D.C.*

through Aug. 27. [illegible] Ave., El Cerrito; 510-[illegible].

Gathering Tribes Gallery: California and Nevada Native Arts Show With work for sale by artists from various tribes. Sat., July 31, 10 a.m.-[illegible] p.m.; Sun., Aug. 1, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. **Mayan Textile Tapestry and Guitarras** With clothing and textiles made in a collaboration between [illegible] Mayan women and Bay Area modern [illegible] Potter. Sat., July 31, 3-6 p.m.; Sun., Aug. 1, 3-6 p.m. 1573 Solano Ave., Berkeley; 510-528-9038.

Hi artists Designs: Juicy With new work by Dave Mosher. [illegible] reception July 15, 6pm-9pm. Mondays-Saturdays, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Continues through Aug. 20. 1783 [illegible] Ave., Berkeley.

Johansson Projects: Native works With work by Jamo Flenn and Jill Gabaldon. [illegible] reception August 6, 5pm-8pm. Starting July 30. Saturdays, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Thursdays, Fridays, 12-6 p.m. Fri., Aug. 6, 5-8 p.m. Continues through Sept. 11. **Between Thresholds** By Erik Parra. Opening reception August 6, 6pm-9pm. Starting July 30. Saturdays, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Thursdays, Fridays, 12-6 p.m. Continues through Sept. 11. 2300 Telegraph Ave., Oakland; 510-444-9140, JohanssonProjects.com.

John F. Kennedy University Arts and Consciousness Gallery: Arts & Consciousness Graduate Exhibition 2010 With work by degree candidates in the university's Bachelor of Fine Arts, Master of Arts in Transformative Arts, and Master of Fine Arts programs. Mondays-Fridays, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Continues through July 30. 2956 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley; 510-649-0499, JFKU.edu/gallery.

Joyce Gordon Gallery: Glimpses in Time: 2010 Annual international juried printing [illegible] with work by 38 artists. Thursdays, Fridays, 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Continues through July 30. 406 14th St., Oakland; 510-465-8928, JoyceGordonGallery.wordpress.com.

Kala Gallery and Art Institute: Residency Projects Part I With work by Sal Brinton, Chris Duncan, Katy Higgins, Laura Paulini and Sammim Yousef. Opening reception July 15, 6pm-8pm. Tuesdays-Fridays, 12-6 p.m. Saturdays, 12-4:30 p.m. Continues through Aug. 21. 1060 Heinz Ave., Berkeley; 510-549-2977, Kala.org.

Rhizomatic, The Over Nothingness: an exhibition in 2 acts Photography by Peter Downey on display July 23, 7pm-9pm and July 24, 2pm-5pm. Video & photography by Jacob Baron-Roberts, Ted Black, Peter Dobey, Sarah Filley, [illegible] & Joey Pietropaolo on view July 30-August 28th. [illegible] reception August 1, 11am-2pm and First Friday Reception August 6, 6pm-10pm, and finally, Butoh-inspired performance/co-creation directed by [illegible] Lee, August 21st, 6pm-8pm, followed by an afterparty. Fridays, 5-8 p.m., Saturdays, 1-5 p.m., Sun., Aug. 1, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., Fri., Aug. 6, 6-10 p.m., Sat., Aug. 21, 6-8 p.m. Continues through Aug. 28. 480 23rd St., Oakland.

Mercury 20 Gallery: Mercury Rising With work by Dave Meeker, Peter Honig, Kathleen King, and others. Opening reception July 2, 6 p.m.-8 p.m. Thursdays-Saturdays, 12-6 p.m. Continues through July 31. 475 25th St., Oakland; 510-444-7786, MercuryTwenty.com.

Pro Arts Gallery: Bay Area Currents 2010 Juried [illegible] with work by several local artists. With a reception July 9th, 6pm-9pm and an artists' talk August 7th, 6:30pm. Sundays, 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesdays-Saturdays, 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Continues through Sept. 3. 150 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza, Oakland; (510) 763-4361.

Roscoe Bohemian Gallery: Everything in Everything New acrylics and mixed-media sculpture by Michael [illegible] Young. With an opening reception July 31, 7pm-10pm. Starting July 31. Sat., July 31, 7-10 p.m., Fridays, Saturdays, 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Continues through Aug. 28. 330 40th St., Oakland; 510-384-5244, [illegible].com.

San Pablo Arts Gallery: Printmakers & Roman Bayada [illegible] by David [illegible], Linda Lee Boyd, [illegible] August and [illegible] and journals by Jill Russell and Debra Smith. Opening Reception July 31, 1pm-3pm. Saturdays, Berkeley, 12-4 p.m. Continues through Aug. 22. One Alvarado Sq. (13831 San Pablo Ave.), San Pablo; 510-215-3093, ci.San-Pablo.ca.us.

Swarm Contemporary Art and Artspace Gallery: Lines, Layers, and Forms With paintings by Anne Subercaseaux, Antonio Lo, and Mel Davis; drawings by Patricia Thomas; photographs by Chris Nestel; and prints and an installation by Sara Slaight. Opening reception July 2, 6 p.m.-9 p.m. Thursdays-Sundays, 12-5 p.m. Continues through Aug. 14. 4830 Telegraph Ave., Oakland.

Studio Gallery: Johansson With work by Susan Lachowitz, Kyle Milligan, [illegible], and Farnaz Shadravan. Reception July 10, 6 pm-9 pm. Saturdays, 12-6 p.m. Continues through Aug. 13. Free. 300 [illegible] St., Oakland.

Rozane Studios + Gallery: Land Use With photography and mixed-media work by Chris Sweet and Ronnie Chatelier, respectively. Starting July 30. Thursdays-Sundays, 12-6 p.m. Continues through Sept. 12. 580 2nd St., Oakland; 510-839-2787, [illegible].com.

Rowell Gallery: Fields Group show with Cecelia Willis, Ezra [illegible], Amy Kalman, Rowan Hass, and Kevin Haas. Opening reception July 17, 2pm-5pm. Tuesdays-Saturdays, 11 a.m.-6 p.m., Fri., Aug. 6, 6-8 p.m. Continues through Aug. 28. 451 25th St., Oakland.

MUSEUMS

Museum Wheaton: Cinco Uruguayos With work by California artists. Opening reception July 10, 1 pm-3 pm. Wednesdays-Fridays, Sundays, 1:30-4 p.m. Continues through July 30. Free. 2324 [illegible] Ave., [illegible]; 510-521-1239.

Berkeley Art Museum: [illegible] Solo exhibition of paintings. Through Aug. 29. **Realm of Enlightenment: Buddhist and Mountain, from the Land of Snows** Exhibit featuring new acquisitions to the museum's collection of Buddhist and Tibetan art. Through Aug. 1. **BAM/scape** Interactive sculpture by artist and architect Thom Faulders. Through Nov. 20, 2011. Free. **Thom Faulders: BAM/scape** Commissioned work includes sculpture and furniture based on abstract designs. Through Nov. 20, 2011. **Gatherings at BAM** Fresh light projections, music, and other multimedia art, curated by David Wilson. Fridays, 7:30 p.m. Continues through Aug. 13. $5; free for BAM/PFA members and UC Berkeley students and faculty. 2626 Bancroft Way, Berkeley; 510-642-0808, BAMPFA.berkeley.edu.

Hearst A. Hearst Museum of Anthropology: From the Maker's Hand From the permanent collection, a selection of works from China, Egypt, and Peru, plus treasures in Africa, North America, and the Mediterranean. Daily. **Native Californian Cultures** This "visible storage" exhibition comprises some 500 objects from the museum's collection of native California cultures. Daily. Kroeber Hall, Berkeley; 510-643-7648, HearstMuseum.berkeley.edu.

Kala Gallery and Art Museum: Kala Fellowship Talk: Sean McFarland and Genevieve Quick Sean McFarland, KALA Fellow and Genevieve Quick, recipient of an honorable mention award, will be speaking about their respective work and creative processes. Thu., July 29, 7 p.m. Free. 1060 Heinz Ave., Berkeley; 510-549-2977, Kala.org.

Oakland Museum of California: Pixar: 25 Years of Animation With over 500 works by the artists of Emeryville's Pixar Studios. Starting July 31. Fridays, 11 a.m.-9 p.m. Wednesdays, Thursdays, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesdays, Saturdays, Sundays, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Continues through Jan. 9. $6-$12; free for children and [illegible]. 1000 Oak St., Oakland; 510-238-2200, MuseumCA.org.

Kaywick Gallery: 2-D/3-D With drawing, [illegible], painting and other work [illegible] the relationship between the two-dimensional and three-dimensional worlds, by Matt Andrews, Jessica Martin, David [illegible] and Andrea Robison. Reception July 15, 3pm-5pm. Tuesdays-Saturdays, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Continues through Sept. 18. 985 Cedar Ave., Berkeley; 510-527-1214, Kaywick.com.

USS Hornet Museum: Nisei Soldiers' Experience Photos and memorabilia telling the story of the nisei (second-generation Japanese-American) soldiers who fought for the US in WWII. Daily. **TBM Avenger, WWII torpedo bomber**, restored by volunteers. Daily. Pier 3, Alameda; 510-521-8448 ext. 243, USS-Hornet.org.

THEATER & DANCE

Kids on the Move

At Cal Performances' ninth-annual AileyCamp show, local youth show off new moves and life skills

Campers rehearse in ballet class.

"More drama!" Ballet teacher **Priya Shah** is rehearsing twelve young dancers in ***Ailey Ensemble***, a humorous, bowling-themed ballet they'll perform for the **AileyCamp annual performance** on Thursday, July 29, at ***Zellerbach Hall*** (Bancroft Ave. at Dana St., Berkeley).

The show will mark the stage debut of the majority of the fifty campers, who range in age from eleven to fourteen. For the many attendees from challenging family situations, the AileyCamp is also their first time experiencing consistent structure and guidance toward their goals.

Co-founded by **Alvin Ailey** in 1989, AileyCamp came to Berkeley in 2002 under the sponsorship of **Cal Performances**. For six weeks each summer, campers take master classes in ballet, modern, jazz, and African dance while practicing conflict resolution and critical thinking. Transportation, daily breakfast and lunch, uniforms, and weekly field trips are included. And it's all free of charge, thanks to grants and donations.

AileyCamp may be free, but the kids earn what they learn. "Those who came to not knowing what to expect, and came with some pretty rough backgrounds, had moments where either they were going to pull it together and focus, or they were not gonna make it through," said Shah. "It's that intense."

David W. McCauley, AileyCamp's avuncular charter director, agreed. "I try to be very clear — yes, it's camp, but it's hard work. One of the kids went home and told his mom, 'It's like boot camp!' One of the biggest things that we're working with is understanding yourself, understanding your behavior and being able to control your behavior."

But camp wouldn't be camp without fun and plenty of it. Thirteen-year-old **Jolisa** of Oakland loved the African dance classes led by **Naomi Johnson Diouf**, artistic director of **Diamano Coura West African Dance Company**. "You move a lot more than in any other class!"

"Everybody's nice," said fourteen-year-old **Khori** of Vacaville. "You get to meet new people and make friends, and work with lots of types of cultures."

Whatever brings kids to AileyCamp, they leave with lessons for a lifetime. "Being here for six weeks doesn't necessarily tell them where they're going, but it gives them the tools to find their direction, which is something we've lost in this generation," said group leader **Yejide Najee-Ullah**, who attended Berkeley's first AileyCamp and recently graduated from Smith College. "I'd like to say I'd be where I am today without AileyCamp, but I know it's not true."

Celebrate the campers' accomplishments at a jubilant show that includes modern and African dance, a Maori haka, and "I Been 'Buked" from Ailey's beloved *Revelations*. Like AileyCamp, it's free — and always filled to capacity. Advance tickets required. 7 p.m. 510-642-9988 or CalPerformances.org.

— *Claudia Bauer*

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COMEDY

Bedroom Comedy with Jason Wheeler Comedy night hosted by [illegible] and featuring Wheeler in addition to Ben Feldman, David Hawkins, Jason Downs and others. Wed., July 28, 8 p.m. McNally's Irish Pub, 5352 College Ave., Oakland. 510-654-9463.

Comic Reading: Featuring [illegible] Sat., July 31, 8 p.m. $15 advance, $18 at the door. Englander Sports Pub, 101 Parrott St., San Leandro. 510-357-3571. EnglanderPub.com.

Steve Harvey "[illegible]" Author and comedian Steve Harvey brings his standup to Oakland. Sat., July 31, 7:30 p.m. $57.50-$78. Paramount Theatre, 2025 Broadway, Oakland. 510-465-6400. ParamountTheatre.com.

DANCE PERFORMANCE

Joe Goode's Traveling Light Wednesdays-Sundays, 8 p.m. Continues through Aug. 1. $20-$44. Old Mint, 88 Fifth Street, San Francisco.

LIVE VARIETY

Music, Magic, Comedy & More With live music by Fred McCarty, magic and comedy by Ryan Hackwell, and a featuring of the movie *2012: Science or Superstition*. Sat., July 31, 7 p.m. $10. Sal Gonzalo, 14868 East 14th Street, San Leandro. (510) 87-4800.

Whitney Fun-Raiser Benefit for [illegible] Whitney Moses, who needs surgery on her knee. With burlesque, and [illegible], live music, a raffle, and more. Thu., July 29, 11 p.m.-6 p.m. $5. The Uptown, 1928 Telegraph Ave., Oakland. 510-451-8100. UptownNightclub.com.

THEATER & PERFORMING ARTS

Blithe Spirit Directed by [illegible] and performed by the Actors Ensemble of Berkeley. Fridays, Saturdays, 8 p.m., Thu., Aug. 19, 8 p.m. Continues through Aug. 21. $15 general, students and seniors $12. Live Oak Theatre, 1301 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 510-649-5999.

Featuring: [illegible] Directed by [illegible] and starring Patrick Russell, Brady Howery and [illegible]. With an Opening Night Gala after the July 23 show and talk back [illegible] with the audience and cast after the Sunday twilight matinees. Fridays, Saturdays, 8 p.m. Sundays, 3 p.m. Through Aug. 15. $12-$18. Chanticleers Theatre, 3683 Quail Ave., Castro Valley. 510-733-5483. Chanticleers.org.

East 14th: True Tales of a Reluctant Player One-man show by Oakland native Don Reed. Sat., July 31, 8 p.m. Sun., Aug. 1, 7 p.m. $20-$35 sliding scale. Reserved seating $50. The Marsh Berkeley at Gaia Arts Center, 2120 Allston Way, Berkeley. 510-644-4943. TheMarsh.org.

An [illegible] of Short [illegible] Shakespeare Staged reading, directed by Alan Berkan and performed by the Actors Ensemble of Berkeley. Tue., Aug. 3, 8 p.m. Pay what you can. Live Oak Theatre, 1301 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 510-841-5580.

Guys and Dolls Berkeley Playhouse Conservatory's [illegible] production of Frank Loesser's classic comedy. The July 24 and 25 performances star sixth- and seventh-graders, and July 31 and August 1 feature fourth- and fifth-graders. Sat., July 31, 2 p.m., Sun., Aug. 1, 1 p.m. Ashby Stage, 1901 Ashby Ave., Berkeley. 510-841-6500. ShotgunPlayers.org.

[illegible]: a performance inspired by the writings of [illegible] One-woman show including music and stories, written and performed by Melanye [illegible]. Starting July 30. Fridays-Sundays, 8 p.m. Sundays, 2 p.m. Continues through Aug. 8. $25. [illegible], 2177 Bancroft Way, Berkeley.

Joy! World premiere of the comedy, a tribute to the gospel singer. Written by Wendy Taylor and Danny Jones, with musical arrangements by Taylor and Mary [illegible] and starring Joannina Robinson in the lead and Thu., July 29, 8 p.m. Fri., July 30, 8 p.m. Sat., July 31, 8 p.m. Sun., Aug. 1, 3 p.m. $15-$25. Cal State East Bay Arts and Education Building, 25800 Carlos Bee Blvd., Hayward. (510) 885-3118.

Chicago Simon Kaplan and Katie Daniels direct students from the Stage Door Conservatory in the prohibition-era musical written by John Kander, Fred Ebb, and Bob Fosse. Fri., July 30, 7:30 p.m., Sat., July 31, 7:30 p.m., Sun., Aug. 1, 2 p.m. $15 general, $20 reserved. Julia Morgan Center for the Arts, 2640 College Ave., Berkeley. 510-845-8542. JuliaMorgan.org.

Machiavelli's *The Prince* Drama based on the famous book. Written and directed by Gary Graves, with Mark Farrell and Dale Robinson Smith. Thursdays-Saturdays, 8 p.m. Sundays, 5 p.m. Continues through Aug. 22. $14-$25 sliding scale, $23 advance. Berkeley City Club, 2315 Durant Ave., Berkeley. 510-848-7800. BerkeleyCityClub.com.

Macbeth Production of the [illegible] performed one-man adaptation of Shakespeare's [illegible] tragedy, set in The Simpsons' Springfield and complete with [illegible] and other multimedia. Devised by and starring Nick Miller and directed by Sean Lyons. 10:30 performances [illegible] with the price of admission. Tue., Aug. 3, 8 p.m. Wed., Aug. 4, 8 p.m. Thu., Aug. 5, 8 p.m., Fri., Aug. 6, 8 & 10:30 p.m. and Aug. 7, 8 & 10:30 p.m. $20. Bruns Memorial Amphitheater, 100 Gateway Blvd., Orinda. 510-548-9666. CalShakes.org.

Mrs. Warren's Profession Timothy Near directs George Bernard Shaw's [illegible] comedy. Featuring Anne [illegible], Rod Gnapp, and others. With tastings of local food and drink Tuesdays and Wednesdays @ 6, a discussion with the cast following the July 11 and 25 performances, and other special events; check website for details. Tuesdays-Thursdays, 7:30 p.m. Fridays, Saturdays, 8 p.m., Sundays, 4 p.m. Continues through Aug. 1. $20-$65. Bruns Memorial Amphitheater, 100 Gateway Blvd., Orinda. 510-548-9666. CalShakes.org.

Staged [illegible]: Henry VI, Part One Directed by Bruce Coughran and featuring [illegible] Shakespeare [illegible]. Wed., July 28, 8:30 p.m. $10. Berkeley City College, 2050 Center St., Berkeley. 510-981-2935. Peralta.edu.

Staged Reading: [illegible] by John Robinson Absurdist plays, featuring Jude [illegible], Margery [illegible] and others and produced [illegible]. Tue., July 27, 7 p.m. $5-$10 donation. Art House Gallery & Cultural Center, 2905 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 510-472-3170.

Staged Reading: Harold Pinter's *The Caretaker* Directed by John [illegible] and put on by the Actors Ensemble of Berkeley. Sun., Aug. 1, 8 p.m. $8. Live Oak Theatre, 1301 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 510-841-5580.

PICKS

Posibilidad

The San Francisco Mime Troupe is nothing if not ambitious — and perhaps a little imperious. For 51 years the small theater collective has worked to overthrow our capitalist economic system using spoof and satire as its ammo. And while it has yet to reach that far-fetched political goal, the troupe has produced some terrific plays in the process. This year's ***Posibilidad or Death of the Worker*** provides a classic parable about factory workers taking over the evil manufacturing plant Pero Weavers, which is actually a subsidiary of a large hemp-ware conglomerate. The action occurs both in the US and in a similar Argentine textile mill located in the small pueblo of *Posibilidad*. Characters switch from English to *Spanish*, which helps make the story more interesting even if it demands a lot from audiences.

Posibilidad

Veteran **Michael Gene Sullivan** wrote the play and stars as the union leader who falls prey to his own hubris. He's upstaged by **Rotimi Agbabiaka**, who plays the profligate, but slithery-skinned New-Agey honcho at Pero Weavers. It all hangs together nicely, complete with Tango dance numbers, faux telenovelas and a little romance. Through September 19 at various Bay Area venues. SFMT.org. — *Rachel Swan*

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THEATER REVIEW

A SPIRIT NOT-SO-BLITHE

Actors Ensemble gives Noël Coward his due

By Rachel Swan

Picture this. You're a jowly British crime novelist with a prim, no-nonsense, somewhat domineering wife of five years. You're happily married and comfortably situated in a house with big vestibules and Renoir paintings on the walls. But you harbor pangs of longing for your first wife, now seven years dead. The pangs aren't sharp enough to count as actual despondency or grief. But it does make you entertain notions of tea leaves and seances and crystal balls. Perhaps it wouldn't be so bad to conjure the ex back, if only for one fleeting reunion. Who you gonna call?

If your name is **Charles Condomine**, then you'll call an eccentric medium who promises to summon ghosts of marriages past. Thus begins ***Blithe Spirit***, a 1941 play by **Noël Coward**, now enjoying a month-long resurrection under the auspices of **Actors Ensemble of Berkeley**. Directed by **Hector Correa**, this comedy of manners stars a twinkly **Stanley Spenger** as Charles — writer, complainer, marriage-complicator and resident fop. **Shannon Veon Kase** is his current wife Ruth, a sweet redhead who just barely puts up with her husband's odd whims and mercurial temperament. **Erin J. Hoffman** is the tall, willowy dead wife **Elvira**. And **Chris Macomber** is the show's real star, as a psychic with fishy credentials.

Madame Arcati is the type of medium you would expect to find in Berkeley. She commutes by bicycle. She wears gaudy Christmas-tree beads and shawls that might have been ripped from someone's carpet. She has clunky black shoes and a turban. She carries Tarot cards and various other accoutrements. She forages at the Condomine's drawing room table, scooping up the last dregs of cucumber sandwiches. Her cheeks look like they were colored with maroon crayon. When summoning up dead spirits, Madame Arcati flails about the room, singing in a frayed contralto and taking up as much space as possible. "Oh don't worry, Mrs. Condomine," she assures a frazzled Ruth, who suggests removing all the breakable stuff from the mantle. "I have my own way of dealing with — the elements."

Seldom does such a vibrant character grace a small stage, even in seen-it-all Berkeley. Madame Arcati is easily the best look to emerge from Actors Ensemble in several seasons. And she's but one of many contributions to the knockout success of this production. By all accounts, the 53-year-old, nonprofessional company took a big risk by tackling Coward. His plays are challenging to produce and easy to screw up. They require actors with believable British accents, a knack for dialogue, and impeccable comic timing. A lot of the humor rests in the articulation of lines (e.g. Ruth upbraiding Charles, "Just because you've been dominated by women doesn't mean you know everything about them") and the intonation of certain words (e.g. Madame Arcati: "I do hope I haven't gone and — released something"). Above all, the actors have to convey volumes in small ways.

Blithe Spirit is a knockout success. Tiffany Sowell

Yet, whoever cast this *Blithe Spirit* did a capital job. Spenger is not quite the Charles Condomine that an avid Coward fan might envision. He seems a bit too lithe, probably too young, and perhaps too amiable. He has a permanent twinkle in his eye, which wouldn't become a frowsy old runner of marriages. Nonetheless, Spenger handles Coward's script fabulously, making the most of his naturally forlorn appearance. He transforms Charles Condomine from an ornery novelist to a small, confused puppy who can't understand why his wives keep coming back to victimize him. Meanwhile, the women in this play are the sort you wouldn't want to meet in a dark alley. Elvira is tall enough to tower over her former husband, with arms outstretched like tree branches. Ruth is small and pert, but also conniving, jealous, and quick to scold. Even Madame Arcati induces fear with her odd locutions and odder apparel. You can tell, just by watching her masticate a cucumber sandwich, that there's evil lurking within.

Strong acting and believable accent rendering aren't the only surprise in this *Blithe Spirit*. Even grander are the set pieces. Alongside the Renoir ballerina paintings lie fancy candlesticks, little porcelain doodads, a fireplace with potted ferns, French doors leading to a fine English garden (painted on the wall — but who's counting?) and a French art nouveau poster advertising Vermouth (fitting, since the characters sip dry martinis throughout). A maid (**Jody Christian**) skitters about the drawing room, polishing silver and yelling in Cockney. There's even an old Victrola in the corner, where characters play 1940s-era gramophones. The carefully crafted jazz soundtrack includes tunes like "I've Got My Love to Keep Me Warm" and "A Porter's Love Song to a Chambermaid."

Taken together, these ballads create visions of co-dependency and domestic bliss — stuff that Coward tries to undermine in all of his comedies. Perhaps the best placed is "A Porter's Love Song," an old Fats Waller classic that plays right around the time Charles' second marriage is starting to unravel. Put in this context, the lyrics seem pointed and cruel: *I will be your dustpan/If you'll be my dish/We'll meet after meals, dear/What more could you wish?* ●

Show Details

Blithe Spirit runs through August 21 at Live Oak Theatre (1301 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley). $12-$15. AEofBerkeley.org

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LECTURES & LIT

Sad Song

Opera and artificial insemination set the stage for Adrienne McDonnell's new novel

Artificial insemination isn't new. It's been around as long as parachutes, bottle corks, and guillotines. A Scottish surgeon inseminated a patient with her husband's sperm in 1785, resulting in a healthy baby boy. **Adrienne McDonnell** learned this, and more about the care and handling of live sperm, while researching her novel ***The Doctor and the Diva***, which she discusses at **Mrs. Dalloway's** (2904 College Ave., Berkeley) on Thursday, July 29. She also had to educate herself in opera and the common parlance of early-20th-century Americans.

Adrienne McDonnell

Beginning in Boston in 1903, it's the tale of a talented singer who, after trying unsuccessfully for years to get pregnant, becomes the patient of an obstetrician whose talents are the talk of the town. But even divas face dilemmas, and brilliant, beautiful upper-crust Erika must choose between family life and a star-studded international career.

McDonnell will never forget the first time she heard about Erika's real-life counterpart. "I was nineteen years old, living in Santa Barbara," she said. "A friend had gone away for the weekend, and she'd loaned me her beachfront apartment. It was around midnight, and I was lying there in the arms of a young man I barely knew. He later became my husband, but at that moment we were just beginning to know one another. He talked about his grandfather, who had recently died. Suddenly he said, 'When my grandfather was a little boy, his mother deserted him and her husband and moved to Italy to develop her career as an opera singer.'"

Contemplating "a privileged woman in early-20th-century Boston who abandoned her husband and small child for the sake of her art ... I couldn't decide. Did I admire her and want to applaud her courage? Or was it heartbreaking that she'd deserted her little boy?" the author recalled.

Visiting the Boston home of Erika's real-life counterpart, McDonnell felt "a strange sense of godlike omniscience because I knew things about her life that she couldn't foresee — how her husband would one day be forced to divorce her and take custody of their small son, how she would sing in *I Puritani* from Montepulciano, Italy; how her little boy would write her letters that were never delivered."

Preserved by her then-husband's aunt, hundreds of pages of correspondence between family members detailed glittery stages in Florence, dusty camels in Egypt, and steamy jungles in Trinidad in the last century's first two decades. "I read the family letters with great scrutiny, always on the lookout for material that might be transformed into a scene."

Erika's crisis was a product of her time. "I think that, today, the courts and society would have allowed her more flexibility with respect to staying in contact with her child," McDonnell mused. "In those times ... she couldn't fly back and forth to visit her son for a few days. In that era, if a mother moved across an ocean and settled in another country, that was it — she was gone." 7:30 p.m., free. MrsDalloways.com

— Anneli Rufus

To share this story, type: ebx.ly/p/sadsong

LECTURES

"artiFACTS" The monthly [illegible] series for [illegible] takes place after the Alameda Point Antiques and Collectibles Faire. First Sunday of every month, 3 p.m., $5-$7. Auctions by the Bay Theater, Alameda Point Naval Air Station (Alameda Point), Alameda. 510-523-0220. AuctionsbytheBay.com.

Pio Pico: California's [illegible] Adventures of Alta California Governor Lecture by Professor Carlos Salomon of Cal State East Bay on the subject of his recent book *Pio Pico: The Last Governor of Mexican California*, with refreshments. RSVP required, call 510-532-9142. Sat., July 31, 6-7:30 p.m. Free. Center for History and Community, 2465 Coolidge Ave., Oakland. 510-532-9142. Peraltahacienda.org.

LITERARY EVENTS

California of the Past Digital storytelling stations allows people to record Berkeley remembrances. Daily, free. Hayward Public Library, 835 C St., Hayward. 510-293-8685. Library.hayward-ca.gov.

David Neiwert and John Amato Presenting their new book, *Over the Cliff*. Thu., July 29, 7 p.m. Free. Books Inc. Berkeley, 1760 Fourth St., Berkeley.

Exhibit: Fighting Injustice with [illegible] Exhibit on literature published clandestinely during the Nazi occupation of the Netherlands. Through Aug. 31, free. Doe Library, UC Berkeley campus, Berkeley. 510-643-4139.

Exhibit: The Future of the Book Exhibit traces the history of print from its beginnings, from papyrus, scrolls, and clay tablets to modern media. Through Aug. 8, free. UC Berkeley Moffitt Library, UCB campus, Berkeley.

Harold Jaffe Presenting his Book of 150 50-word [illegible]. Wed., July 28, 7 p.m. Books Inc. Berkeley, 1760 Fourth St., Berkeley.

Laugh Out Loud Poetry Reading and discussion of humorous poetry with City of Pleasanton Poet Laureate [illegible] and teacher and blogger Sandra Kay. Followed by an open mic and light refreshments. Sun., Aug. 1, 2-4 p.m., $5; free for students. Century House, 2401 Santa Rita Rd., Pleasanton. 925-931-5340. www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us/century-house.html

Middle East Studies Group Call Louise Robbins at 510-893-2142 for more info. Saturdays, 3-5 p.m., free. Grand Lake Neighborhood Center, 530 Lake Park Ave., Oakland.

Mystery Novels by Women: Bootlegger's Daughter Discussion of the mystery by Margaret Maron. Tue., Aug. 3, 6:30-7:45 p.m., Free. Hayward Public Library, 835 C St., Hayward. 510-293-8685. Library.hayward-ca.gov.

New books: Book Countdown A new service offered through the library's improved web site. Features include an online reference Oakland Catalogue and database access, search box, pull-down menus, and more. Daily. Oakland Public Library Main Branch, 125 14th St., Oakland. 510-238-3134. OaklandLibrary.org.

Online Book Clubs Sign up for this program and read the latest books via e-mail, or chat about books in discussion forums. To participate visit OaklandLibrary.org. Daily.

Poetry Flash: [illegible] and [illegible] Presenting their poetry books, [illegible]. Sun., Aug. 1, 1-3 p.m. Free. Diesel, 5433 College Ave., Oakland. 510-653-9965. Dieselbookstore.com.

Poetry Book: [illegible] and [illegible] Reading from their new poetry [illegible]. Thu., July 29, 7:30 p.m. Free. Moe's Books, 2476 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley. 510-849-2087. Moesbooks.com.

Reading Books We Love Class members take turns discussing a Bookchat-inspired theme. Led by [illegible]. Last Wednesday of every month, 12:30 p.m., $5 suggested donation. Unitarian Universalist Church, 1 Lawson Rd., Berkeley. 510-525-0302. UUCB.org.

PUBLIC INTEREST

The Art of [illegible] Workshop covering the use, design, and practical applications of solar cookers. Space is

PICKS

Carlos Salomon

At the grand opening of the Peralta Hacienda Historical Park's new **Center for History and Community** (2465 Coolidge Ave., Oakland) on Saturday, July 31, **Carlos Salomon** discusses his book ***Pío Pico: The Last Governor of Mexican California.*** Part African American, part Native American, and part Hispanic, Pío Pico was a wealthy businessman and politician who fought to keep California Mexican. 6 p.m., free. PeraltaHacienda.org. — *Anneli Rufus*

Oliver Chin

As the founder of Immedium, a San Francisco-based publisher of innovative books for children, and as the author of many such books himself, **Oliver Chin** knows what entertains kids. At the **Union City Library** (34007 Alvarado-Niles Rd., Union City) on Saturday, July 31, Chin reads from his book ***Baltimore and the Flying Pirates*** then demonstrates how to make a pirate-themed craft. 2 p.m., free. ACLibrary.org. — *A.R.*

Pío Pico.

Camille Minichino Discusses Stieg Larsson

Now an award-winning film, ***The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo*** is late author **Stieg Larsson**'s tale of a Swedish journalist investigating a long-ago death. **The Mystery Scene Book Club** discusses the novel at the **Castro Valley Library** (3600 Norbridge Ave., Castro Valley) on Tuesday, August 3, led by local author **Camille Minichino**, whose books include ***The Carbon Murder, The Boric Acid Murder,*** and ***The Helium Murder***. 6:30 p.m., free. ACLibrary.org. — *A.R.*

Howard Bryant

He's hailed as one of the best players in the history of baseball. **Hank Aaron** started his career in the Negro American League with the Indianapolis Clowns. For the next quarter-century, Aaron hit and rose to reach the heights of American competitive sport. At **Books Inc.** (1344 Park St., Alameda) on Wednesday, August 4, ESPN senior writer **Howard Bryant** discusses his book ***The Last Hero: A Life of Henry Aaron***. 7:30 p.m., free. BooksInc.net. — *A.R.*

Bristol, nut/seed in pre-register. Sat., July 31, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. $15 general; $10 for Ecohouse members. Ecohouse, 1305 Hopkins St., Berkeley. 510-843-3707.

Celebration of WPA Art Screening and discussion of 15/30 films of Works Progress Administration projects, as well as modern documentaries about the New Deal era and programs and its legacy. With Harvey Smith, Gray Brechin, Margot Smith and others. Thu., July 29, 7 p.m. Free. Berkeley City College, 2050 Center St., Berkeley. 510-981-2931. [illegible]

City of El Cerrito Environmental Quality Committee Special Meeting Thu., July 29, 6 p.m. El Cerrito City Hall, 10890 San Pablo Ave., El Cerrito. El-Cerrito.org.

Free Guided Walking Tours in Downtown Oakland With eight itineraries to choose from. Reservations recommended but not required. More information at 510-238-3234. Wednesdays, Saturdays, at 10:00 a.m. Continues through Oct. 30. Free. Downtown Oakland, 12th and Broadway, Oakland.

Free [illegible] Psychedelic and Entheogenic Activism Roundtable discussion about the virtues of various plants and substances and the ways in which their use and prohibition have affected culture. Saturdays, 1:00-3 p.m. Long Haul, 3124 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 510-540-0751.

[illegible] Educational [illegible] With staff from the Center for Speech, Language, and Occupational Therapy. Wed., July 28, 7 p.m. Free. Fremont Main Library, 2400 Stevenson Blvd., Fremont. 510-745-1400.

Pat Schneider The author and poet will show the film *Tell Me Something I Can't Forget*, which concerns his work with writing and low-income women — [illegible]. Tue., Aug. 3, 7 p.m. Free. Pacific School of Religion, 1798 Scenic Ave., Berkeley. 510-849-8206. PSR.edu.

Report Back from the World Social Forum in Detroit Learn about anti-war, civil rights and other movements, from Phoebe Sorgen and others. Wed., July 28, 1:30 p.m., Free. West Berkeley Senior Center, 1901 Hearst Ave., Berkeley. 510-981-5190.

Saving the Bay Part 1 of 4 Screening and discussion of the documentary recently aired on PBS. Thu., July 29, 7:30 p.m. Fellowship Hall, 1924 Cedar St., Berkeley. 510-841-4824. [illegible]

Tour de East Bay Cohousing A 10-mile bike tour of East Bay cohousing communities. Meeting: Doyle Street in Emeryville; Marpessa Grove in North Oakland; Temescal Commons and Temescal Creek Cohousing in north Oakland and Swan's in downtown Oakland. Led by [illegible], founding member of Temescal Creek Cohousing. Sat., July 31, 9:15 a.m.-3:15 p.m. $35, $45 with lunch. Berkeley Cohousing, Sacramento St., Berkeley.

SPOKEN WORD

"'80s at Night" '80s movies and TV games, plus 2 for $5 well drinks. Tuesdays, 8 p.m. Free. Pasand Lounge, 2284 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. PasandLounge.com.

The Berkeley Poetry Slam hosted by Charles Ellik, Betsy Polk. Music by 3 Blind Mice. Wednesdays, 8 p.m. $7. Starry Plough, 3101 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 510-841-2082. StarryPloughPub.com.

Café Poetry Featured readers and an open mic. Alastair Moore and Paradise Freejahwoo, and Kim Allen host alternating sessions. Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m. Donations requested. La Peña Cultural Center, 3105 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 510-849-2568. LaPena.org.

Comedy Night hosted by Tony Sparks. Thursdays, 7 p.m. Free. Downtown Café, 1122 Folsom St., San Francisco. 415-863-3967. [illegible]

[illegible] Blast, hosted by [illegible] the Rock Chef with rotating acts. Mondays, 8 p.m. $5. Rockit Room, 406 Clement St., San Francisco. 415-387-6344. RockitRoom.com.

[illegible] A night of poetry and spoken word. Thursdays, 8:30-11:30 p.m., donations requested. Eastside Cultural Center, 2277 International Blvd., Oakland. 510-533-6629.

Hella Beck!! open-mic night for poets. Thursdays, 8:30 p.m. Free; donations requested. Eastside Cultural Center, 2277 International Blvd., Oakland. 510-533-6629.

Magic & More! w/ Big Al Carrag & Friends. [illegible] performance of magic and comedy games. Saturdays, 8 p.m. $10. 38 Market Theater, [illegible] San Francisco. 415-848-0770.

[illegible] Night and [illegible] a rotating lineup of SF Comedy College alumni. Tuesdays, [illegible]. $5. San Francisco Comedy College, 414 Mason St. #705, San Francisco. 415-921-2051. SFComedyCollege.com.

Music @ Spoken Word [illegible] First Sunday of every month, 6-8 p.m. Free. Casa Vista, 1322 D Park St., Alameda. [illegible]

Poetic Groove W/ Cassandra, Indigo, & Jan Marie. Fridays, 7:30 p.m. free. House of Unity, [illegible] Room, Oakland. 510-430-0031.

Poetry Diversified A twice-monthly open mic with featured readers, hosted by poets ensemble Tere Santos. First and Third Tuesday of every month, 7:30-9 p.m., free. World Ground Café, 3726 MacArthur Blvd., Oakland. 510-482-2989. WorldGrounds.com.

The [illegible] Event [illegible] variety show hosted by [illegible]. Last Wednesday of every month, 7:30-10 p.m., $7. [illegible] 3225 22nd St., San Francisco. 415-647-3886. [illegible]

SF Comedy Showcase Sundays, 8 p.m. $15. Punch Line, 444 Battery St., San Francisco. 415-397-4337. SFPunchlineComedyClub.com.

[illegible] Show rotating acts. Wednesdays, 8-9:30 p.m. $5. San Francisco Comedy College, 414 Mason St. #705, San Francisco. 415-921-2051. SFComedyCollege.com.

Thursday In Blast, Blast A weekly spoken-word and poetry gathering. Thursdays, 8 p.m. Continues through Dec. 31. Free. [illegible] Mediterranean Café, 2475 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley. 510-548-1128.

Works in Progress [illegible] hosts a women's open mic with featured poets. Sign up between 7 and 7:20 p.m. for 6-8 readers [illegible]. Third Tuesday of every month, 7:30-9:45 p.m., $5 [illegible] light refreshments. [illegible] Cultural Arts Club, 1010 Mountain Blvd., Oakland. 510-339-1832.

More Listings Online
Get info about dozens more literary events at **EastBayExpress.com** or **m.EastBayExpress.com**

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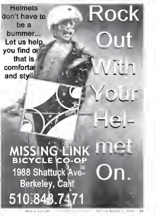

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Say Thanks

Gratitude should be a "global ethic," says interfaith advocate David Steindl-Rast.

David Steindl-Rast.

It's hard work for a hermit, but **David Steindl-Rast** periodically sets his beloved solitude aside to undertake strenuous lecture tours, discussing his ideas with everyone from Green Berets to New Age commune-dwellers.

His audiences have included European intellectuals, Ivy League professors, underprivileged African students, members of the Papago Indian Tribe, Buddhist monks, Sufi retreatants, United Nations delegates, missionaries on remote Polynesian islands, and Annapolis cadets. During a two-month tour of Australia, he gave 140 talks and traversed 12,000 miles without ever retracing his steps. It's all in a day's work for Steindl-Rast, one of the world's most famous Benedictine monks, a leading interfaith advocate, and a founding father of today's thriving gratitude movement.

His 1984 book ***Gratefulness, the Heart of Prayer*** asked readers to "wake up" and allow themselves to be startled by whatever they saw, be it rainbows or rubble.

Emerging from a church where he had sheltered during a bombing raid as an Austrian youth during World War II, Steindl-Rast saw smoke, blasted sidewalks, and broken glass. But he also spied a few square feet of pristine lawn. "It was as if a friend had offered me an emerald in the hollow of his hand. Never before or after have I seen grass so surprisingly green," he remembered. "Surprise is no more than a beginning of that fullness we call gratefulness."

Ten years ago, Steindl-Rast cofounded the international nonprofit **A Network for Grateful Living (ANG*L)**, which fosters the transformation of gratitude into a global ethic via rituals such as candle-lighting and meditations on what he calls "turning points in the rhythms of each day."

At the **First Congregational Church of Berkeley** (2345 Channing Way, Berkeley) on Friday, July 30, Steindl-Rast joins philosopher **Sam Keen**, whose latest book is ***In the Absence of God: Dwelling in the Presence of the Sacred***, for a discussion titled "**The Scandal of Gratitude**," about searching beyond what passes for gratitude in popular culture. At the same location on Saturday, July 31, Keen and Steindl-Rast facilitate an **all-day workshop**. Proceeds from both events benefit ANG*L.

Steindl-Rast hastens to note that gratitude is not limited to any one denomination. His commitment to interfaith dialogue shines in his new book ***Deeper Than Words: Living the Apostles' Creed***, which bears a foreword by the **Dalai Lama** — hardly whom you'd expect to meet in a volume about a 5th-century proclamation that avows: "Jesus Christ, God's only Son ... suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into Hell. The third day He arose again from the dead."

"The Creed speaks in the language of the Christian religion," Steindl-Rast acknowledged, "but also in the voice of a spirituality that lies deeper than any particular tradition." Whatever their faiths, those with open minds can see the meanings that lie "deeper than words" and "recognize them as valid expressions of the faith that unites us. ... I have tried to trigger that recognition." Fri. 7:30 p.m., $20; Sat. 10 a.m.-4 p.m., $99 (includes coffee, tea, and boxed lunch). BerkeleyArts.org. — *Anneli Rufus*

To share this story, type: ebx.by/saythanks

HEALTH & WELLNESS

Bay Street Stroller Strides Fitness program for new moms [illegible] power walking, jogging, body toning, and strength and flexibility training into their busy schedules. [illegible] or StrollerStrides.net/oaktown. Fridays, 9:30 a.m. First class is free; $120 for a 10-class pass. Old Navy, 5605 Bay St., Emeryville.

Breast Cancer Support Group for Spanish-Speaking Women Registration required: call 510-869-8833. Third and First Monday of every month, 4-6 p.m., free. Markstein Cancer Education and Prevention Center, 450 30th St., Room 2810, Oakland. 510-869-8833.

Community Healing Night With workshops and demos by professional healers and technicians. Refreshments provided. Fourth Wednesday of every month, 7-9 p.m. Continues through Dec. 31, free. Rhythmia [illegible] Works, 2513 Blanding Ave., Alameda. 510-845-5060. Rhythmia.org.

[illegible] With Tony Madrid. For cancer patients and their families. Reservations required. Sat., July 31, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Free. Wellness Community, 3276 McNutt Ave., Walnut Creek. 925-933-0107.

Newly Diagnosed Breast Cancer Workshop With guest medical experts and group talk. [illegible] is Invited, and 925-933-0107 to register. Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Continues through Oct. 27. Free. Wellness Community, 3276 McNutt Ave., Walnut Creek. 925-933-0107.

PERSONAL GROWTH

Reclaiming what is Lost: A Vocal, Meditation and Ritual Workshop Vocal and movement exercises led by [illegible] Daniel and Anne Hege and intended to help participants remember people and places they have lost in a healthy and constructive way. Participants are invited to bring a "sonic memory" of a person or place they wish to honor. Register at [illegible]. Sat., July 31, 2-5 p.m. $12-$20 sliding scale. Oakopolis Creativity Center, 447 25th St., Oakland.

RELIGION & SPIRITUALITY

Alta Bates Summit Medical Center's Vascular Rehabilitation Program This program includes instruction on beneficial exercises you can do at home, information on clinically relevant topics, and guided strength training in a supportive group setting. Physician referral required. Instruction takes place at 3030 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley (next to Whole Foods). [illegible] 510-204-1554. Thursdays, 10 a.m., Tuesdays, 10 a.m. $64.

Candle Magic For Muggles Learn how to use candles to heighten your intention and empower your dreams with Debra Hill. [illegible] Tarot. Sun., Aug. 1, 12:30 p.m. $10. Angel Light Books, 3347 Martin Luther King Jr. Wy., Berkeley.

A Day with Brother David and Sam All-day discussion covering topics like "Dwelling in the Presence of the Sacred" and "The Scandal of Gratefulness in Contemplation," led by Sam Keen and David Steindl-Rast. Includes morning and afternoon coffee and teas and a boxed lunch. Sat., July 31, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. $100; students $65. First Congregational Church of Berkeley, 2345 Channing Way, Berkeley. 510-848-3696.

"The Scandal of Gratitude" Lecture focusing on how to pierce beneath the too-easy surface concept of gratefulness, with David Steindl-Rast and Sam Keen. Fri., July 30, 7:30 p.m. $20; students $10. First Congregational Church of Berkeley, 2345 Channing Way, Berkeley. 510-848-3696.

Mediation for Ministry: Responding to Congregational Conflict Workshop designed for clergy, seminarians, and other leaders of faith communities, focusing on [illegible] for congregational and interpersonal conflict. With [illegible]. Sat., July 31, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. [illegible] Pacific School of Religion, 1798 Scenic Ave., Berkeley. 510-849-8206. PSR.edu.

YOGA & BODYWORK

Free "Green" Yoga All levels welcome. Sun., Aug. 1, 10:30-11:45 a.m. Free if you walk, bike or take public transportation. Yoga in the Middle, 20011 [illegible] Rd., Castro Valley. 510-537-2184. YogaInTheMiddle.com.

PICKS

Managing Menopause Workshop

During menopause, many women experience insomnia, cravings, memory loss, hot flashes, and other symptoms that range from annoying to alarming. At the **Women's Cancer Resource Center** (5741 Telegraph Ave., Oakland) on Thursday, July 29, **Dandy Der** leads a workshop on managing menopause nutritionally. UC Davis and Bastyr College alumna Der is a Certified Nutrition Consultant and the owner of East Bay personal-chef service [illegible]. 6 p.m., free. WCRC.org. — *Anneli Rufus*

Reading: Book About Soul

Having grown up in a family devoted to Eckankar (said to mean "the light and sound of God"), a religion which was founded in Nevada in 1965 and incorporates beliefs in soul travel and the power of mantras and dreams, tennis pro **Casey Lowe** — former captain of the UC Berkeley men's tennis team — discusses his book ***Shine On***, a treatise on the realm that Eckists know as Soul, on Friday, July 30, at **the Bay Street Coffee Company** (3800 Bay St., Fremont). 5 p.m., free. 510-353-9900. — *A.R.*

Breath-gasms and Energetic Sex Class

Yoga, breathwork, and Tantra are all part of the curriculum on Saturday, July 31, at **Fruitopia** (1080 23rd Ave., Suite 110, Oakland) as sex educators **Reid Mihalko** and **Sheri Winston** offer fully clothed, "R-rated" demonstrations of techniques constituting what Mihalko — who has appeared on *Montel* and Fox News — calls "Energetic Sex." Offering exercises that participants can later practice privately, the pair examine the possibility of reaching orgasm via breath alone. Noon, $99 per individual or $158 per couple. ReidAboutSex.com. — *A.R.*

California Medicinal Plants Class

Learning to recognize plants by their family characteristics — texture, scent, leaf shapes, and more — gives us a better understanding of what we see growing up around us. At **Blue Wind Botanical Medicine Clinic** (823 32nd St., Apt. B, Oakland) on Sunday, August 1, an all-day **class on California plant families** from a medicinal perspective includes a lecture and slideshow highlighting taxonomical and chemical characteristics, then a field trip to nearby parks and gardens. 10 a.m., $85. BlueWindBMC.com. — *A.R.*

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AQUARIUM AGE

AS THE WHEEL OF LIFE TURNS

For the week of July 28-August 3, 2010

By Rafiee Finn

The planets continue to unlock key positions on the Wheel of Life this week, and as the karmic tumblers fall into place, daily life is punctuated by a series of cosmic clicks. For some of us, this alignment translates into poignant "oh hes" that provoke a deep sense of being in the right place at the right time. For others, especially those whose lives are cluttered with superficial concerns, the possibility of opening locked situations exacerbates existing anxieties. For still more, the collective situation will continue to be something quite separate from personal life, an unfortunate perspective that's likely to increase anxiety as well as confusion. Many more, keenly aware of just how accurately the current cultural milieu mirrors personal concerns, may be too aware, particularly if the possibility of transformation feels hopeless.

With so much of our world in need of creative remedies, it's easy to feel ineffectual and to fall into despair. But each of these planetary positions has the power to unlock a new point of view, and the entire planetary combination has the power to support radical changes in core beliefs. All that's required to make the most of this moment is the humility to shift away from the tried and true and to instead embrace a sense of adventure about a new approach, even if that approach is still in the process of forming.

Here's the planetary picture: Jupiter and Uranus are conjunct in Aries, Saturn and Mars are conjunct in Libra. With the exception of Jupiter, all of the planets occupy the zero-degree point of Aries and Libra. Both conjunctions oppose one another. Pluto, at 3 degrees Capricorn, squares both sets of conjunctions, and is in an exact square with Jupiter at 3 degrees Aries.

Okay — those are the technical details. Oppositions and squares symbolize tension and stress, but squares are active angles, which means we should be prepared for all sorts of events to focus the intensity, and because Uranus is part of the picture, those events could be sudden and swift. Be aware: Pluto is the facilitator of these surprising plot twists, which means they are also not likely to be smooth or polite. When Mars, Saturn, Uranus, and Pluto form pernicious interactions, violence is probable, and that violence is not limited to physical brutality. It also includes emotional, mental, and spiritual cruelty. For those of us committed to non-violence, coping with this aggressive astral air will require renewed determination to work for peace at every level, no matter how seemingly insignificant.

Ferocious planetary interactions tend to intensify already destructive situations, which means we can expect increased violence in the Middle East and in all other areas of the planet suffering from the extremes of war. We can also anticipate racial and gender tension to increase, not just in the United States, but also in other areas of the world where gender or the color of one's skin can be used as a rationalization to deny one's humanity.

As the week unfolds, do your best to make a positive contribution. When possible, lend a helping hand — and, as always, try to be kind.

If you know your Ascendant and/or your Moon Sign, read that too.

ARIES Yes, relationships are a lot of work, but they can also be rewarding. Concentrate your attention on partnerships that yield beneficial results, and you'll make good use of the intensity.

TAURUS Indulge your desire to hibernate. There's nothing wrong with hunkering down at home under the covers with good food and relaxing entertainment.

GEMINI Heartfelt conversations with friends stimulate innovative ways of dealing with a stagnant area that you have been unable to shift. Listen carefully to what emerges from those exchanges.

CANCER Be forthright about what you want, but don't expect every wish to be fulfilled. The point of the exercise is to learn to be comfortable expressing what you need.

LEO Your innate generosity has the potential to be a powerful antidote for aggression. Take the time to be kind, and your gift of heartfelt compassion will be returned without hesitation.

VIRGO You'll find a positive solution if you're willing to consider alternative points of view. You don't have to agree with or adopt a position you don't believe in, just stay open and be flexible.

LIBRA Mars moves into your Sign on July 29, and while I'm not saying you need an anger management class to handle the God of War, I advise you to develop a strategy for healthily managing your intensity.

SCORPIO If you harness the excess energy of the week and focus it on career concerns, you will be able to make tangible progress in refining your goals — and, in certain instances, actualizing them.

SAGITTARIUS You have an opportunity to turn the travails of the week into gold. So follow your intuition, refuse to be corrupted by negativity, and move forward with exuberance.

CAPRICORN Continue to take charge, but also try to be compassionate. Lots of people are experiencing difficulty, and not everyone is as skilled at handling difficult situations.

AQUARIUS Allow your significant other, whether lover or friend, to offer understanding and support. Relying on others is not a sign of weakness; it's an act of love.

PISCES While there are several opportunities to improve your finances, the best way to improve your mood is to continue to concentrate on creative projects. ●

Rafiee Finn specializes in Transformational Astrology. For readings, call 1-888-937-9264, write P.O. Box 343, New York, NY 10025, visit AquariumAge.com, or e-mail Rafiee@AquariumAge.com. Copyright © 2010 by Rafiee Finn

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The wraps at Urbann Turbann are as big as bricks

Chris Duffey

NEW LIFE ON NORTHSIDE

Opened within a few weeks and a few feet of each other, three new restaurants offer sturdy student food, Berkeley-style.

Anneli Rufus

How do you feed students? How do you satisfy these cryptic creatures whose circadian rhythms are driven, until graduation, by footnotes and roommates and Ramen? How do you please them not only now and then but as a business model?

The block of Euclid Avenue heading northward from **UC Berkeley**'s North Gate is Telegraph Avenue's sleepy twin, ignored by tourists and chain stores alike. Looking almost like a ghost town for the last year or so, it sported many boarded-up storefronts, then this summer three new restaurants opened within a few weeks and a few feet of each other.

Feeding students for a living boils down to convenience, price, and speed. Student food might look novel, but it's intrinsically homey because the bittersweet truth about students, often to their own surprise and shame, is that for the first time in their lives they are learning the anguish of nostalgia.

You can see this in their eyes at **Vinnie's Cheesesteaks**, which is one of the three. It's that flash of recognition, that flush of gratitude, that flicker of identity and pride as patrons, feeling very far from home, recite their orders with a blurred fluency. Requesting chopped steak on a soft roll with Cheez Whiz feels, for most of us, outlandish. For anyone from Philadelphia, it feels like saying *I belong*.

And what you get is juicy, salty, oozy, chewy: a culinary social-class mash-up as the humble Philly made hoagie roll in its nearly flavorless neutrality embraces the open-range, non-GMO seductiveness of **Niman Ranch** beef. (After all, *The Omnivore's Dilemma* author **Michael Pollan** works right across the street at Cal's **Graduate School of Journalism**, whose former dean is Niman's original co-owner **Orville Schell**.)

Provolone and American cheese are available, too, but Cheez Whiz is the industry standard. What genius realized that this would work, much less become a local staple? Abundant tasty tofu and Portobello-mushroom cheese "steaks" are also served here, but meats and non-meats are cooked with the same tools on the same grill. Other burgers and sandwiches round out the menu, as do huge delicious, heart-attack-in-a-basket heaps of garlic fries. (Arteries aren't one of the things students worry about.) Vinnie's onion rings, super-satisfying standouts, are crisp golden circlets as big as dog collars and almost as weighty.

For years, **Aman** and **Chandler Mohal** had been hoping to open an Indian restaurant somewhere in the Bay Area. When a space on Euclid became available, Orinda-bred Aman saw his chance to cook professionally the Punjabi family recipes he'd been tweaking since childhood. But the space's student clientele, tiny size, and lack of indoor seating mandated making Indian food quick, convenient, and affordable.

Urbann Turbann meets this challenge with all-organic, cruelty-free, made-to-order wraps as big as bricks. Your choice of pillowy house-baked naan or dairy-free, whole-grain roti is rolled tightly around masala potatoes and salad greens plus your choice of a number of slightly Berkeleyized Indian classics such as boneless Sonoma chicken marinated overnight in organic yogurt, then tandoor-cooked over an open flame. Aman's pork vindaloo is inspired by his personal favorite eighteen-hour procedure for preparing barbecued pulled pork. Meatless selections include hearty red Kashmiri paneer with toasty, springy cheese cubes; perfumed pea-studded mushroom mattar; and herbed seasonal vegetables (silky-soft Swiss chard right now; okra and eggplant up next). Into each wrap goes your choice of chutney, including tangy tamarind and rich, crumbly coconut. The fillings can also be had over brown rice in bowls, while Berkeley's best new bargain might be Urbann Turbann's $1 potato samosas.

Helping friends open an Indian restaurant in Mexico last year taught the Mohals a lot, not about rolling flatbreads burrito-style, which they'd already used, but about flavors, Chandler said. Mexican stores don't carry pre-mixed Indian spice packets, "so if you want to cook, say, a tikka masala in Mexico, you have to hunt for each individual spice, then decide how much of each to use and what to substitute for the ones you can't find." Back in the Bay Area, Aman now shuns pre-mixed packets, mixes his own spices, and is more experimental than ever.

The corner space from which brand-new **Northside Cafe** dispenses vibrant breakfasts and lunches is historic. Where punks mingled thirty years ago at **Rather Ripped Records**, diners now sip enormous coffees and linger over a full menu of house-made soups, salads, scrambles, hot and cold sandwiches, stuffed baked potatoes and old-fashioned egg, pancake, and French toast breakfasts at sleek tables and along a counter spanning vast windows facing Cal. Nine-foot ceilings and those gigantic windows provide a sense of dining alfresco, which is exactly what co-owner **Shoosh Nassar** planned when he transformed a former bakery and adjoining candy shop into this sleek, lofty space. The East Bay native and St. Mary's High School grad loves cooking and food and has been around both all his life. He's also been around this neighborhood, as his father owns **Brewed Awakening** across the street.

"I first set foot behind a cash register at age eleven," Nassar laughed. "Customers who come in now and recognize me from Brewed Awakening say, 'I remember when you used to stand on a milk box to reach the keys.'"

His family also owns **Grub N Go** in downtown Berkeley, whose wildly creative sandwich combos also appear here. Fresh roasted turkey with cranberry sauce, spinach, and cheese, for instance, and an almost-too-tall-to-bite baked-eggplant/mushroom/pesto panini. The best deals are the baked potatoes, which way outweigh nearly everything else for the same price, and hefty egg/potato/cheese/salsa breakfast wraps. "Technically, you should be able to walk to class eating it. If you don't finish it before you get there, you can wrap it up neatly and eat the rest after class." ●

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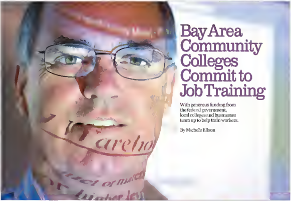
Barbara Lippard 34



Bay Area Community Colleges Commit to Job Training

With generous funding from the federal government, local colleges and businesses team up to help train workers.

By Michele Ellson

Town Business 38

Taxing Big Pot Farms

Is it legal? Oakland and Berkeley will find out.

The Entrepreneurial Lawyer 36

Private Placements 101

To find investors for your business, you'll need to become familiar with what the law lets you do.

Back in January I wrote about securities laws and how business owners need to be careful not to violate them when raising capital. I also suggested some ways to raise capital that are exempt from extensive compliance paperwork. The reality is that it is almost impossible to raise a significant amount of capital for your business without having to deal with securities laws. Yet this does not mean it is not worth the effort. Using the "private offering" exemption from securities registration requirements and armed with an understanding of the legal framework, it is possible to raise capital from people you know

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Jack London Market Waits For Its Time

The tight retail climate has developer wary of committing to launch date.

The News Behind the News

92510

eastbayexpress.com/blogs

Retail Climate Delays Jack London Market

Hunger is there for the culinary playground, but developer is wary of committing to a firm launch date

By Bernice Yeung

The long-awaited artisanal food mecca at **Jack London Square** has been billed as a "culinary playground" that will help revitalize the Oakland waterfront. Brochures promise that the building will become the East Bay's response to the flourishing gourmet market halls that exist around the country. "Our vision is to be like the **Ferry Building** in San Francisco or **Pike Place Market** in Seattle, a large-scale market that features local sustainable produce and focuses on this idea of local being best for the community," said **Molly Tafoya**, a spokesperson for the **Jack London Market**.

According to the most recent floor plans, the ground level will offer a mix of produce stands, spaces dedicated for butchers and fishmongers, and artisan retailers who will sell goods such as olive oils, teas, and spices. Cafes and casual eateries will dot the second floor. It's enough to make any East Bay foodie drool. "I think the market would be a good fit," said **Steve Sacks**, owner of **Prime Smoked Meats**, whose operations are based at Jack London Square, and which sells dried cured bacon and artisan hams under private label at the Ferry Building. "I keep watching the market and hoping it will get going and established."

But observers like Sacks have been teased by more than one missed opening deadline. Although the building is nearly complete, it remains a vacant, rebar-exposed work-in-progress. The market's web site promises a 2010 opening date, and publicist Tafoya says that everything is "on track" to meet a year-end deadline.

The developers, however, are less specific. "We are obviously flying in the face of a challenging economy, and the dates that we have put out there, we haven't been able to meet," said **Will Miller** of development partner **Ellis Partners**, who is handling the leasing. "So we're most interested in announcing the date publicly when we have a date that we can confidently comply with. We want to build a critical mass so that when we open, we know we have an appropriate opening lineup. And we want to ensure that when we invite the public to come down, they will be delighted."

Signage on the building boasts that **Bracina**, a restaurant collaboration between star chefs **Daniel Patterson** and **Laura Kilno** will open soon. But even that offers no hint to the market's overall timeline. A spokesperson for Patterson said that there are "no firm projections" about when Bracina will open and that they are "hoping to begin construction in the fall," while some foodie blogs have reported a January launch.

But there are some signs of life. Last year's inaugural **Eat Real Festival** filled the building with the types of businesses that Miller would hope to attract as tenants, and the festival's apparent popularity seemed to demonstrate that a hungry base of customers would be willing to support such a development. This year's festival occurs August 27 to 29.

Meanwhile, the 31,000-square-foot parking garage across from the market is slated to open around Labor Day, which is when the law firm **Kazan, McClain, Lyons, Greenwood & Harley** will move into the market building office space. A weekday shuttle running down Broadway from Grand to Jack London Square from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. is set to begin soon.

All of this makes Oakland City Councilwoman **Nancy Nadel** hopeful. "They have made progress in filling office space," she said. "Retail is challenging at this point, but as the financial conditions improve, that should improve, as well. No one could predict an international financial collapse, and it's taking longer than we'd hoped."

Still, with anchor retailer Barnes & Noble exiting the square late last year, locals have expressed concerns. "[The developers] are obviously having a problem realizing things, and largely because of the economy," said **Ben Delaney**, board president of the **Jack London Square Association**. "And I'm not sure how these guys are at retail management because they have managed to empty out the going concerns in the square, and that is distressing to those of us who consider this our home."

Steve Sacks of Prime Smoked Meats thinks the market will fit the neighborhood. Chris Duffey

Miller quelled rumors of a Whole Foods filling the former bookstore space, and said that Ellis Partners is in "ongoing negotiations" with interested retailers.

Whatever the reason for the dark storefronts, one thing's for sure: Only a trickle of retail foot traffic can be found at Jack London on most days, except for Sundays, when the farmer's market brings a crowd. This frustrates some existing retailers.

"I love Oakland," said **Meg May**, founder of **Miette** bakery. "I live here, and I want to see it work. I think that the potential of having a market on the waterfront, it could be so good. I really believe in the potential. We have our fingers crossed. But at this point, we're starting to exhale a little bit, and we're wondering if it's worth it, if there should be a Plan B."

Nevertheless, some residents remain cautiously optimistic. "If they're able to get the market piece of it going, it'd be great," said Jack London Square Association board member **Gary Knect**. "I'll believe it when I see it." ●

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Feeding the Demand for Mid-Century Modern

Retail tour: Danish and American modernist furnishings.

By Bernice Yeung

When **Bruce Crawford**, the owner of **Modernaire** (2101 Dwight Way, Berkeley) opened up his first retail furniture store 25 years ago, on the East Coast "modern" was associated with all things art deco. He spent the first half of his career hunting for 1920s and 1930s-era pieces. But about ten years ago, Crawford began to notice that mid-century modern furniture — particularly anything from Denmark — became all the rage, and that there was a shift toward an appreciation for simple lines and biomorphic shapes.

"It coincided with the disappearance of all the art deco stuff," Crawford noted. "It was hard to find any good art deco anymore."

More than three years ago, he moved out of a collective of modern furniture purveyors in San Francisco to open up the Berkeley shop, and he purposefully offers a wide array of modernist goods from the 1930s up through the 1980s, with the bulk falling in the mid-century category. And in addition to furniture — including one of his current favorites, a 1950s **Peter Hvidt** solid teak credenza — Crawford sells kitchen and dinnerware, as well as art glass, pottery, lighting, and artwork.

Showing off a vintage 1930s floating, double-decker waffle iron, he said, "There is a reason why I have everything in my store. It's all selectively chosen, and there's something significant about it."

But the definition of what's modern isn't the only thing that's changed over the course of his career — another is that he now has more competition. "It's not a niche market anymore; it may even be mainstream," he said. "I've noticed a lot of mid-century modern stores popping up in the East Bay lately. There's a bigger market and a greater appreciation for it."

Just In Modern of Berkeley

Lynna Jensen's 6,000 square-foot showroom **Klassik by Lynna** (1313 67th St., Emeryville, KlassikByLynna.com) focuses exclusively on Danish modern, and she hit the industry sweet-spot organically. A native of Denmark, Jensen returns to her home country three to four times a year to forage for new pieces. She is choosy, with an eye for detail, and insists on meeting every person she buys from, especially those who are refurbishing pieces.

"When I buy in Denmark, we do a big effort to meet with the vendors," she said. "We spend a day in their workshops. We take pictures, make notes, we grab the tools and help them out a little bit. We go through what kind of oils and lacquers are used, and why they clean with this and whether this oil will enhance the wood or damage it."

Her most recent finds are then stored in a Copenhagen warehouse, and every two months, a new shipment comes in by container ship to the Oakland port.

In addition to finding the vintage pieces, Jensen also has been able to source original upholstery as well as strapping and springs for chairs so that Jensen and her staff can do repair, refurbishing, and finishing work on-site. (Jensen also provides furniture appraisal and interior design consultation.)

Jensen says the demand for Danish modern "is still peaking," and as evidence of that, this month she's opening a new store, **Klassik Living** (1649 San Pablo Rd., Berkeley) that will feature still in-production modernist pieces, such as the iconic Peacock Chair and Shell Chair by **Hans Wegner**. "We're going to blend really unique vintage with the new, still in production to make the colors pop a little," Jensen said of the new store. "We'll have gift items and I'm going to do a little more with mid-century kids furniture. It's going to be fun."

Justin Hoffman's store, **Just In Modern** (901 Hearst Ave., Berkeley, JustInModern.com) has taken a markedly different approach with a focus on American designers of the mid-century era. "Everyone is doing a lot of Scandinavian and Danish designers," he observed. "I feel like there's a real lack of good American design that's available at a reasonable price. My focus is on **Eames** and **George Nelson**, and all those designers under the **Herman Miller** umbrella, as well as the California designers that were lesser known in the Fifties that produced all of this amazing stuff."

His obsession with good, modernist design — and Eames furniture in particular — plus his frustration with the wine industry is what made him switch careers a couple years ago from sommelier to mid-century modern furniture dealer. "It's such an interesting time period," he said of the 1950s and 1960s. "I'd read these old books to see what I can find out about it. Like Eames, after the war, they wanted to come up with a low-cost design for a chair that would be portable and well made. They came up with the fiberglass idea from looking at World War II shock helmets, and they got this idea to mold the shape into a human form and create low-cost seating. That's the kind of thought process and what goes on behind the design that is so fascinating."

You can also find vintage furniture, textiles and decorative arts at **Retro@Home** (5861 San Pablo Ave., Emeryville, RetroAtHome.com), dig for modernist gems at **Urban Ore** (900 Murray St., Berkeley, UrbanOre.ypgrades.net), and cybershop for chairs and tables from designers like **Herman Miller** and **Noguchi** at the Berkeley-based online store **The Magazine** (TheMagazine.info).

Retail Roundup

Opening: Klassik Living (1649 San Pablo Rd., Berkeley) opens in August and features vintage and still-in production Danish Modern furniture. Sales: Bath Clearance Sale at **Design Within Reach** *(1770 4th St., Berkeley, DWR.com), where sinks, faucets, storage and accessories are up to 70 percent off.* **Metamorphosis Spa** *(1651 N. California Blvd., Ste. B, Walnut Creek, Escape2Meta.com) is offering a fifty minute Swedish massage special for $40. Moves: Upcycle home décor store* **Fernseed** *moves from its Dimond District location to 3906 Lyman Rd., Oakland. Mergers:* **Form Vintage Modern** *has combined with* **Urban Home Consignment** *(1825 Eastshore Highway, Berkeley) and offers a mix of vintage and new home furnishings.* ●

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Small Business Q&A

Passion Is Not Enough to Sustain a Business

Barbara J. Lippard of SCORE advises entrepreneurs to acquire all the necessary management skills

By Bernice Yeung

Berkeley's **Barbara J. Lippard** has served in various leadership positions within SCORE, the national organization that provides free small-business mentoring and training. Currently, she's a counselor and serves on its national board of directors. Prior to her retirement, Lippard was an investment manager for **Time, Inc.'s** Venture Capital Group, and an executive for **Selling Areas-Marketing Inc.** (SAMI), a division of Time, Inc. She talked to the *East Bay Express* about the key components of running a successful enterprise, the biggest misconceptions that entrepreneurs have, and what's different about running a business in the East Bay.

Tell me a bit about SCORE.

SCORE is a 45-year-old, nationwide organization with 12,500 counselors and approximately 400 chapters in the US. We have a new strategic plan and business plan and our goal is that by 2017, we will have started one million successful new businesses.

There are twenty counseling locations in the East Bay, including the **Berkeley Chamber of Commerce**, two days at the Berkeley library, and locations in Dublin, Walnut Creek, Livermore, Antioch, Hayward, and Fremont.

We do face-to-face counseling at no cost because it's funded by Congress. Clients can come in as often as they want, and for as many years as they want. The relationship lasts as long as the client wants it to. In addition to free face-to-face counseling, we have workshops. The primary workshop covers how to start and manage a business. It's a full-day workshop taught by SCORE volunteers and professionals in the community, like attorneys and accountants, or insurance people who talk about the issues related to starting and managing a business. We also have online counseling where you can go to the national web site, click on "Ask SCORE," type in a key word or a question, and someone with that experience will get back to you in 48 hours by email.

Barbara J. Lippard of SCORE Chris Duffey

Tell me about one of your clients and how you've assisted them.

Our clients are confidential, but one of my clients said it would be okay to mention her business. I've been working with **Bay Area Green Tours** for almost a year, and in the time since I met the owner, **Marissa LaMagna**, she has introduced many more tours and she has added structure to her business. The two issues where I have been most influential is in explaining to her the need to have a business plan that will describe her organization so that the community can understand what she is adding to the community, and that can be used to help her gain funding. The other thing I've done is in encouraging her to understand the financials and why they need to be managed so that the company has the capital to grow.

Ask Reem Rahim

Reem Rahim is the creative director of Numi Organic Tea, which she co-founded with her brother in Oakland more than ten years ago when they decided to import a tea they drank as children in their native Iraq. Numi has since become the largest organic, fair-trade specialty tea company in the country. A former biomedical engineer, Rahim oversees the company's package design efforts, which feature her original paintings. She also is responsible for crafting, along with her brother, Numi's green and sustainable values, and initiating Numi's nonprofit organization, which supports social and environmental causes. To submit your questions to Reem Rahim, e-mail them to Bernice.Yeung@EastBayExpress.com by Friday, August 13th.

What are the biggest misconceptions that small business owners have?

Most people who want to start a business have a certain skill or idea, and what they don't understand is that having that skill or that idea or that new product is not enough to make that business successful. They need to have all of the elements that make a business successful. You need the idea. You need good management — it's better to have a second rate idea and great management than a great idea and poor management. You also need capital, and depending on what you're doing, you need sales and marketing. You need to manage your finances. And you need a willingness to work 24/7. You are not going to start a business so that you can have more free time or because you don't want to have a boss because your boss will be replaced by your customers or your suppliers. You will always have to be responsive to somebody.

My background is finance, so I tell my clients that they need to have a sense of financial management and of the numbers, so that they understand how much it costs to do what they are doing, and how to make projections about when they will break even and profitable so they can plan for ahead.

Otherwise, there will not be enough money and not enough capital, and a good idea can die because the owner can no longer take money out of their own pocket to put it into business.

What are the most important lessons you learned about business through your career and how have you helped small business owners make that same realization?

What I've learned is to do what you say you're going to do, and do what you do well. Because if you always meet an excellent standard, then you will have that reputation.

And I think you have to be persistent, and "no" is just an opportunity to get someone to say "Yes."

Also, I'm very big on planning, strategy, and tactics. You need to develop a strategy of how you're going to implement your business, and tactics to support that strategy, and then you use that information as a benchmark of what you're actually doing. In a business plan, you can have financial projections going out, say, four years, which you should use on a daily or weekly basis to assess whether you're doing as well as you otherwise could be. If you are, great. What are you doing well? If not, why not? What do you need to do to match those projections? When I help people with business plans, we start with the question: What do you need to support the lifestyle that you want?

A lot of people write a business plan because someone said that they needed to do it and because you can't get dollars from a bank without one. And if they happen to get some funding, then they throw the business plan into the back

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of a filing cabinet and never look at it, which is a waste of a document that could be very helpful for them.

Is there anything unique or different about doing business in the East Bay?

There is a lot of interest in green businesses. Even people who are not necessarily running a green business want to do whatever they're doing in a green way. That's an opportunity and that's something different about the East Bay.

We have a group at the East Bay Chapter of SCORE, a group of counselors who are really excited about the green economy and sustainability and we have clients who are doing something in this area.

We feel that whether a business is green or not, you still need to have the same business skills to grow and be successful, and we can help you with that. Whether you're a for-profit or a non-profit, it's the same issues. With green businesses, the difference is an understanding the green manufacturing techniques, understanding the dynamics of what makes your business green and sustainable. This is where the economy is going.

The general world population buys into the concept of global warming, that there is awful environmental pollution going on. There is an understanding in the world society that the world needs to do better and we need to start to improve things. And when it comes to businesses and the way we do business and the way we use products, we need to look at that so we do not contaminate the water and we don't use all of our natural resources up. However you define the green economy, there is more buy-in and it's where we're going.

Are there ever situations where you'd advise someone to not start a business?

The SCORE counselors feel that some of their best work is in keeping someone from getting into debt because they're not ready to start their business. There are a number of reasons why we ask people to rethink their business idea, and one is that the idea is not competitive, the competition is so big and strong that they probably won't make it. Other reasons are that people want to go into business and they are not prepared. For example, many people want to go into the restaurant business and when we ask them what kind of experience they have, they'll say "I like to cook." When we ask them if they've ever worked in a restaurant, they'll say "No."

So we'll suggest that they go and take a part time job in a restaurant so that they can start to understand inventory control and buying, and where to purchase equipment. It's never presented to them as a negative. "You shouldn't go into business" or "You're not an entrepreneur." The question we ask them is, "How can you prepare yourself?"

I have one gentleman who used to call me all the time, and we'd always have the same conversation. He'd ask me what business he should go into and I'd always tell him that it has nothing to do with what I want him to go into. It's about the business that he wants to go into and that he has the skills for.

There are businesses that have the potential for growth and those that don't. Within those two parameters, you need to find what you want to do and look for a niche that you could fit into. ●

Bernon.Young@EastBayExpress.com

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Small Business Solutions

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hField Wi-Fire: Get More Out of Wi-Fi

by Mielle Sullivan, Janus Networks

In today's wirelessly networked world, connection is effortless only in areas where you can get a reliable signal on your computer. If you live or work in place where your connection leaves something to be desired, or if you travel frequently, you can spend a lot of time trying to find a good network. Once you have found one, all too often it can sputter out the minute you connect. In those moments, all the technological wonder of the internet is worthless to you and if you depend on cloud applications, your fancy laptop is all but a brick. Enter the hField Wi-Fire, a relatively new $59 adapter that can help keep you connected to everything you need.

The Wi-Fire is easy to set up. Install their software on your Windows 7, Vista or XP, Mac OS X 10.4 or 10.5, or Linux kernel 2.6.24 machine, plug it into your USB hub, clip the adapter to your monitor and you are ready. Reportedly, the device can boost wi-fi range by up to 1,000 feet. It draws power directly the from the USB port, but it uses a small amount of energy so the drain on your battery is minimal. Once the software is installed and the device plugged-in, you can pull up a connection manager window that displays all available networks, the strength of each network in a clear percentage and the speed of any network you connected to.

Knowing the strength of a given network in a precise percentage is very helpful when determining which network to choose. While the network list detected by your computer will display signal strength in three or four bar increments, there is a lot of variation within a given bar that you are blind to without a tool like the Wi-fire. With an accurate idea of how strong a network is and how much it is fluctuating, you can minimize the need to switch networks in the event of signal loss. With the Wi-fire, you can also point the "antenna" towards the strongest signals and boost reception further.

If you travel frequently for work or if the signal strength in your office isn't particularly stable, the Wi-Fire could be a real productivity enhancer. And at $59, it is affordable to most small business owners.

You can contact the author at press@janusnetworks.com

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Aug 18th & Sept 15th: East Bay Green Drinks (www.greendrinks.org/CA/Berkeley)

Sept 14th: Green Business Structured Networking Event

To register or learn more about SBA and supporting the sustainability movement, please visit:

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The Entrepreneurial Law

Raising Money Via Private Placements

If you're hoping to find investors for your business, you'll need to become familiar with what the law allows you to do.

By Jenny Kassan

Back in January, I wrote about securities laws and how business owners need to be careful not to violate them when raising capital. I also suggested some ways to raise capital that are exempt from extensive compliance paperwork. The reality is that it is almost impossible to raise a significant amount of capital for your business without having to deal with securities laws. Yet this does not mean it is not worth the effort. Using the "private offering" exemption from securities registration requirements and armed with an understanding of the legal framework, it is possible to raise capital from people you know.

The general rule of securities law is that any offering of equity or debt in a business must be registered with the federal **Securities and Exchange Commission** and the securities regulators of all states in which the securities are being offered. The most commonly used exemption from this requirement is the so-called private offering exemption. A private offering, also known as a private placement, is one in which the investment opportunity is not advertised to the general public, but only made known to potential investors who have an existing relationship with the company or its founders. The private placement exemption is based on the premise that potential investors who have a pre-existing relationship with the company need less protection from being duped into making a bad investment.

This does not mean that you are in the clear as long as you only talk to potential investors you already know. It is necessary to understand the various ways of doing a private placement within the law and to select the way that fits your circumstances.

The first question to ask is who do you want to invite to invest in your company? If you are only seeking investment from so-called accredited investors — organizations with more than $5 million in assets, or people with a net worth of at least $1 million or income exceeding $200,000 in each of the two most recent years — you are in luck. In that case, all that is required is a few hundred dollars in fees and a couple of simple filings with state and federal regulators.

But if you are like most of us, you may not know that many rich potential investors. So you will want to be able to solicit some unaccredited investors. Securities laws assume that unaccredited investors need much more protection than accredited investors from unscrupulous promoters of investment opportunities. The minute you solicit even one such investor, the legal requirements become more complicated.

If you do choose to solicit unaccredited investors, the next question to ask yourself is whether you qualify for the intrastate exemption from federal securities law. If you can answer yes to the following questions, you can use this exemption.

Is the state in which your business is incorporated the same state where you do business? Do all your potential investors live in that state? Are most of your company's assets located there? Does most of your revenue come from there? Finally, will you use most of the money you raise in that state?

The intrastate exemption is based on the premise that an offering that stays within a single state does not require federal regulation, since it will be regulated by the relevant state. If you qualify for this exemption, you need only worry about state securities regulations and not federal. In California there is a useful exemption from the registration requirement called the 25102(f) exemption. Under this exemption, you can offer securities to an unlimited number of accredited investors and up to 35 unaccredited investors who either have a preexisting personal or business relationship with the company or its principals or have the ability to protect their interests due to their financial experience or the fact that they have experienced professional advisers.

The term "preexisting personal or business relationship" includes any relationship consisting of personal or business contacts of a nature and duration such as would enable a reasonably prudent purchaser to be aware of the character, business acumen, and general business and financial circumstances of the person with whom such relationship exists.

What if you can't use the intrastate exemption? Under federal securities law, if you plan to offer securities to unaccredited investors, you are required to prepare a "private placement memorandum" that describes in great detail your business, your financial projections and current condition, the potential risks of the investment being offered, etc. It is best to consult with an expert to help you prepare this. The good news is that you can fill in a lot of the information yourself. And, as under the California 25102(f) exemption, you can only sell securities to a maximum of 35 unaccredited investors under the federal private placement exemption.

No matter what type of private placement you do, the rule for all of them is that you cannot solicit the general public. What does this mean exactly? Advertisements on the radio, the Internet, or other media are strictly prohibited, as are seminars advertised to the public. There are, however, some less-obvious prohibitions. For example, the **US Supreme Court** ruled that when **Ralston Purina** made a stock offering to its employees, the offering did not qualify for the private-offering exemption. The court said "employees are just as much members of the investing public as any of their neighbors in the community." Unfortunately, it is sometimes hard to figure out what would be considered advertising by the courts. It is important to keep records of all of the contacts you make with potential investors and document your relationship with each one.

The law of private placements is complicated. It is essential to have a complete understanding before attempting to solicit investors. But the big take-home lesson is to establish "pre-existing relationships" with as many people as possible before you need capital. ●

Jenny@KassanLaw.com

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Let's Close the Financial Literacy Gap

Small businesses have a stake in helping their employees learn more about money

By Jonathan DeYoe

As I wrestled with my English homework at the kitchen table, my father would remind me that "knowledge is power." He knew the hours I spent cracking the books would translate into a myriad of opportunities in my adult life. Both my parents worked hard to foster a lifetime commitment to learning that enhances every aspect of my day-to-day existence and informs how I relate to my own children.

Today education remains a high priority for most parents. We agonize over whether to send our sons to public, private or charter schools. We demand that teachers provide our kids with a solid foundation in the core subjects of reading, writing, and arithmetic. We lobby local school boards to expand science education, bemoan cuts made to art and music programs, and nag our daughters about finishing their math problems.

While in the past few decades there have been some significant changes in education, there remains a critical gap in our children's education: money and finances. We've completely failed to incorporate financial literacy programs into their education. This oversight doesn't just affect eight-year-olds struggling to stretch their allowance. It can have lifelong consequences for kids of all ages: teenagers who run up impossible cell-phone bills, young adults who wrack up crippling credit-card debt, parents who take on overly large mortgages, and grandparents who can't afford to retire. It baffles me that we continue to graduate high school seniors with no practical knowledge of money whatsoever.

Why talk to our kids about the dangers of drugs, but tiptoe around the subject of dollars and common sense? I think the reason may be pride. Parents often do not understand their own finances — much less the global economy — and they are too embarrassed to admit it. But if parents don't teach their sons and daughters directly about money, children are forced to learn through osmosis or eavesdropping on tense arguments about overdue bills.

Society's failure in this area has a lasting impact on us as adults. Every day we are bombarded with "expert" financial opinions from magazines, papers, radio stations, and 24-hour news channels. Since we don't have the knowledge or criteria to make sound judgments, we often wind up selecting our personal financial gurus based on how little they force us to question the family mindset we absorbed as children.

We can demand financial reform from Wall Street, but I'm convinced the only thing that can save us individually and collectively from financial ruin is if more of us become financially literate. If people were more intelligent about money, they would make smarter choices and be less likely to make big mistakes at home or work. A recent study by the **Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta** linked financial literacy with the likelihood that a borrower would fall behind on their mortgage payments during 2006 or 2007. People who tested in the lowest group for financial literacy spent twice as much time in delinquency and were two-thirds more likely to experience foreclosure.

This is a cultural problem, and neither our educational system nor our parents are up to the task. And that's where small business owners come in. If employers want to make a meaningful difference in the lives of their employees beyond providing a living wage and a reasonable package of benefits, they should teach them something about money — not just because it's a nice thing to do, but because it will improve their business.

A lack of understanding about money affects the home lives and work lives of both employees and customers. Money is one of the primary reasons couples fight and get divorced. Money woes cause anxiety and depression. Some employees worry about their finances every single day. And according to a survey by **Thrivent Financial**, two-thirds of those surveyed also worry about the finances of parents or siblings.

Gaining a better understanding of money will make employees less anxious, more focused and productive, and could ultimately lead to greater company revenue and profitability. Such knowledge might lead them to participate more in the company's 401(k). Providing financial education can reduce the liability an employer has when offering such a retirement plan and can enhance employee loyalty. Most importantly, helping employees defeat their personal financial demons can significantly improve the quality of their lives.

Business owners can educate their employees about many topics, including investing, insurance, budgeting and saving, debt and mortgage, retirement planning, and college planning. Companies with 401(k)s should definitely offer educational programs about saving for retirement or college. But small businesses also can partner with a local credit union to offer their employees educational seminars. And, if employers want to provide comprehensive financial education as part of an overall employee benefits package, they can contract with a local financial planning firm to provide educational programs or interactive seminars that demystify money.

Small business owners should help make financial literacy a reality for their employees, and themselves

From Wall Street to Main Street, people who understand money fare better than those who don't. Small business owners are in a great position to help make financial literacy a reality for their employees, and themselves. ●

Jonathan DeYoe is a certified private wealth advisor and an LPL Financial registered principal. Securities and financial planning offered through LPL Financial, member FINRA/SIPC. This article is for informational purposes only and is not intended as legal or tax advice. Consult your attorney or accountant for such advice to determine what is appropriate for your situation. DeYoeWealthManagement.com

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Parklets for People, and Small Businesses Too

What else can you do with an on-street parking space besides storing cars? Most people would give you a blank look – parking spaces are a precious commodity in our California car culture, and it's an article of faith that there are never enough of them — but "flexible parking" trials are showing the way to reclaiming a bit of precious public space for the greater public good, offering answers that are more healthy, happy, and even business friendly than old fashioned car storage.

Parklets repurpose two or three on-street parking stalls in front of businesses as space for people to relax, drink a cup of coffee, and enjoy the city around them. How does it work? Café or restaurant owners, or any type of retail business, can place tables and chairs in curbside parking spaces in front of their businesses. The retail/café seating areas are kept separate from adjacent parking spaces and travel lanes using planters or other semi-permanent fixtures.

The East Bay Bicycle Coalition hosted a Parklet at Oaklavia on June 27 in Old Oakland. It was one of the most popular spots at the event. The Parklet featured green astroturf, outdoor seating for nearby restaurants, shady benches, and a foosball table that got continuous play despite the fact that it wasn't level. Musicians, gardeners, and bicycle tailers gravitated to the block, creating a lively street scene filled with happy passers-by and "customers."

Parklet demonstration at Oaklavia, June 27

Restaurants that chose to open did brisk business. Cafe 417 on Washington Street in Old Oakland is normally closed on Sunday. "We didn't expect anything," Lillian, one of the owners, said as she prepared salads behind the counter. "The Parklet has been great." She would be happy to see the event repeated and "we will be more ready for it next time."

Streetside public space encourages more pedestrian traffic, slows motorized traffic, creating safer streets. A Parklet not only increases your usable retail space, it also gives your business more visibility to passers by. A new Parklet on Divisadero Street in San Francisco has already shown positive economic impacts: owners of Mojo Café, adjacent to the Parklet, say business is up 30% and they have hired more staff.

Parklets are a flexible concept: spaces may be used for parking part of the time, cafe seating at other times, or loading and unloading. Local businesses decide what works best. As each curbside parking space is approximately 160 square feet, several tables might fit into the space typically occupied by a single car, benefiting business owners as well as pedestrians, who gain additional space on sidewalks where seating is removed or relocated.

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Is It Legal to Tax Large Pot Farms?

Berkeley City Attorney Zach Cowan and Oakland Councilwoman Rebecca Kaplan, co-author of Oakland's new law, say it is. But other legal experts disagree.

Robert Gammon

The City of Oakland hopes to make millions of dollars each year by taxing the four giant medical cannabis growing operations it plans to permit in early 2011. Likewise, Berkeley hopes to cash in on six large medicinal pot grows if city voters approve them in November. But both cities shouldn't start counting too much on the new revenues, because there are questions as to whether taxing large marijuana farms is legal.

Both cities plan to levy what's called a "business receipts tax" on their large, growing operations. That is, the cities want to tax the pot farms' annual revenues. Berkeley is asking voters to approve a tax of $25 for every $1,000 of revenue at each farm. As of late last week, Oakland appeared ready to ask voters to okay a tax of $50 for every $1,000 of revenue. In short-hand, Berkeley's business receipts tax would be 2.5 percent and Oakland's, 5 percent.

The stakes could be huge. Oakland city staffers project that a giant grow of 100,000 to 150,000 square feet could generate $2.4 million to $3.6 million in tax revenues each year. That's a total of $9.6 million to $14.4 million flowing annually into the city's beleaguered general fund — or enough to pay the salaries and benefits of 51 to 74 laid-off cops.

Oakland has taxed the business receipts of cannabis dispensaries for several years. But the question of whether such taxes are lawful on pot farms is somewhat murky. Berkeley City Attorney **Zach Cowan** contends that they are legal, as does Oakland City Councilwoman **Rebecca Kaplan**, an attorney and co-author of the law approved by the city council last week.

However, Oakland attorney **David Stein**, who represents the Oakland medical cannabis dispensary **Purple Heart Patient Center**, questions the legality of taxing large pot grows. Stein also contends that the farms themselves also would be illegal if not operated by a licensed dispensary. The office of Oakland City Attorney **John Russo**, which reportedly questions the legality of the city's new pot farm law, did not return a phone call seeking comment for this story. Office spokesman **Alex Katz** said an opinion that the office gave the council on the issue is confidential.

To understand the legal questions surrounding the pot farm tax requires a bit of background. Under federal law, medical pot is illegal, but the Obama administration has taken a hands-off approach to the issue in states where voters have endorsed the concept.

Under California law, there must be a direct link between the growing of the plant and the patient for the cultivation operation to be lawful. In some jurisdictions, growers actually label each plant with the name of the patient who ultimately will use it. But in most places, the grower, the patient, and the dispensary are all members of the same medical cannabis "collective." This cooperative agreement provides the link between the grower and the patient needed under state law. However, the grower is still not allowed to cultivate more pot plants than would serve all the patients in the collective.

However, if the large farms are not operated by dispensaries, and are instead controlled by a third party, it raises questions as to whether such an arrangement violates state law and also whether it's okay to tax that third party. Cowan and Kaplan contend that as long as the third-party grower is also a member of the same collective as the dispensary and the patient, then the arrangement is okay.

Stein disagrees, however, arguing that if a giant grower has more pot plants than allowed for the number of patients in the dispensary, then it breaks the patient-dispensary-grower nexus. "It's clearly a violation of state law," he said. Stein submitted a letter to the council last week, outlining his legal objections.

But what if large growers are members of more than one collective and are growing plants for patients in each of those collectives? Is that legal? "It's an interesting question," Cowan said. "Let's put it this way: There's nothing in state law that says they can't."

That's effectively how Oakland and Berkeley plan to set up their large medical cannabis operations. Each farm will be a member of every collective they sell pot to, and each will clearly have to be members of several collectives. It's no different than patients choosing to belong to more than one collective.

But what about the tax issue? How can Oakland and Berkeley levy the same business receipts tax twice against the same collective? Remember, Oakland has been taxing dispensaries for years, effectively taxing that collective already, and Berkeley plans to begin taxing dispensaries if voters agree this fall.

Cowan and Kaplan argue that as long as the large pot farms are separate business entities from the dispensaries, then the cities can charge them separate business receipts taxes — effectively taxing the same pot plant twice. It's no different from other retail goods, from toys to clothes to TVs. They're taxed when sold from a manufacturer to a wholesaler, then again to a store, and then again to the consumer. From Cowan and Kaplan's perspective, it doesn't matter that the farms and the dispensaries are part of the same collective or coop; as long as they're separate legal entities, they can be taxed.

Kaplan said her staff has found a similarity with almond-growers' cooperatives and other business cooperatives. In those cases, growers and producers can be taxed on the revenues they earn selling to the cooperative, and then the cooperatives can be taxed on the revenues they make when selling them to stores or directly to consumers.

That's the primary reason why both Oakland and Berkeley prefer that third-party growers, rather than dispensaries, operate the farms. If dispensaries operate the farms, then the cities can't tax the medical marijuana twice. They can only tax the business receipts of each dispensary once — and not the grower since they are the same entity. To put it another way, having the dispensaries operate the large farms could cost Oakland $9.6 million to $14.4 million in revenues a year. ■

Robert.Gammon@EastBayExpress.com

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Educating Tomorrow's Employees

Bay Area community colleges use federal funding to team up with local businesses on job-training initiatives.

By Michele Ellson

In a portable classroom located on the far end of the **College of Alameda** campus in Alameda, **Bill Gravel** is running through the particulars of the next project for his Introduction to Warehousing Operations class: He's assigned teams of students to design a local or regional warehouse.

The jovial banter between Gravel and his sixteen students involves some efforts by the students to convince their instructor to let them make some trades among the teams he's selected, but Gravel presses on. He's got a guest speaker from **Voice-Insight** coming in to talk about a voice recognition program the students may use on the job someday soon, and a hazmat certification course for them to complete next week.

The six week class is part of the College of Alameda's two-year-old Allied Transportation and Logistics Academic Support (ATLAS) program, a warehousing and transportation logistics program developed with the aid of local businesses and some sizable federal grants. It and other programs like it are thriving, despite state funding cuts that have forced public colleges to dramatically scale back other offerings or shut their doors to new students.

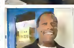
The programs are designed to turn out skilled workers for the industries that surround each school. Students run the gamut age-wise, from newer workers in their twenties to others in their fifties who need retraining in new industries.

"My objective is to get these guys to where they can talk the talk and basically walk the walk," said Gravel, who has spent forty years in the warehousing industry and who is president of the Northern California branch of the **Warehousing Education and Research Council**. "So they will have that skill set, knowledge base. So when they go into an employer they don't have that glazed-over look in their eye."

"I think when they get out of here, they'll be well-ahead of the curve of most folks," he added. "In this industry, it's all on-the-job learning. It's a leg up for these guys."

Marion Smith, 47, who was laid off from his last job in 2009, signed up to learn more about the forklift and, he hopes, to find someone who will hire him. "It gives me a great opportunity to just get my foot in the door," Smith said during a break in a recent class.

The ATLAS program came out of a report generated by the **Oakland Partnership**, a group put together by Oakland's **Chamber of Commerce** and Oakland Mayor **Ron Dellums**, said **Lorraine Giordano**, the program's manager. The report identified five industries the city should focus on developing, including transportation logistics.



Chris Duffey

Marion Smith, left, is taking Bill Gravel's class, above, in the hopes of landing a new job.

The College of Alameda and five other community colleges partnered with the ports of Oakland and Stockton, **Oakland International Airport**, businesses that included **FedEx**, **UPS**, **7-Up Bottling/Cadbury Schweppes**, and a broad array of workforce development and government groups to start the program. Start-up money included a $2.3 million Community-based Job Training Grant from the **Department of Labor** and $3.1 million in funds pooled from elsewhere.

In addition to warehousing and logistics courses, ATLAS offers basic math, English brush-up and training in resume-writing and interviewing, plus case management and job development services, Giordano said. "Our program is a full package," she said.

ATLAS and similar programs are thriving, despite funding cuts that have forced public colleges to scale back.

The programs are popular with students and employers alike. Giordano said the program has trained hundreds of students in its warehouse operations and forklift program alone — and posted a job-placement rate of more than 65 percent.

"Before we would do a lot of outreach to employers to let them know about our program," Giordano said. "We're now getting calls from employers about hiring our graduates."

Community colleges have traditionally focused on providing speedy workforce training. But these new programs are the product of an unprecedented level of collaboration between the schools, local industry and local workforce development organizations.

As such they offer pre-employment training that was never before available, specifically tailored to local industry.

Joseph Luppino of **Give Something Back**, an Oakland-based office-products company with seventy employees that is part of that partnership, noted that Alameda County is a hub for transportation, package handling, and distribution for the Bay Area and Northern California. And Luppino thinks there's a shortage of skilled workers to handle those jobs.

In the past, future workers might only have had access to general business classes, but nothing specific to his industry. But now the operations manager and others like him can pick from a pool of trained workers.

"If I was looking for a new supervisor, someone from this program would be an incredible candidate," Luppino said.

Meanwhile, **Los Medanos College** in Pittsburg has a process-technology program designed to train people to work in the surrounding refineries and chemical companies. The program was started in late 2006 to retrain former **United Airlines** mechanics but is now open to anyone, said outreach coordinator **Jim Martin**.

Before the program was put in place, local refineries and other companies would look out of state for skilled, entry-level workers. But these workers would quickly leave California for cheaper environs, the college's web site noted.

So Los Medanos put together a nine-course program in concert with several oil companies, workforce development groups in Alameda and Contra Costa counties, **Los Angeles Harbor College**, and several local school districts. And with the aid of a $1.5 million community-based job training grant from the **Department of Labor**, the college can offer its classes tuition-free through the end of this year.

The biggest challenge was getting the word out on a career that can pay well — starting salaries can be as high as $80,000, Martin said — but that isn't particularly well known.

"No child when they grow up says, 'I want to be a process technician,'" Martin said.

But aggressive outreach all the way down to the high school level has paid off, Martin said. Classes were full the past two semesters, and look to be full again this semester.

Helping build and teach the program has paid off for local businesses too. **Ken Dami**, a Martinez-based spokesman for **Tesoro**, an independent refinery company, said he sees the program as a joint win for his company, prospective workers, and Los Medanos. His company helped design the process technology program — the only one of its kind in Northern California and one of only a few dozen in the country — and some of its employees teach courses in it.

"One of the best things for us is, we're able to organically grow the future workforce from our own communities, as opposed to having people come from somewhere else that might have concerns with housing prices or family issues," Dami said. "We have lots of folks here that are ready, willing, and able to take on the responsibilities and grow within a company."

The machines that refine oil at the Martinez facility need skilled operators to run them, and Los Medanos' program prepares them for that work, Dami said.

Just getting their charges past a dizzying array of workplace lingo is a big hill to climb. **Gennifer Tate**, who helped design and also teaches some of the courses in the program, said one student told her she was struggling to figure out the terminology she heard in the San Francisco steamship office where she worked.

"When our time was over, she said she felt confident going into the office and understanding with the training we were giving her," said Tate, human resources manager for **Berkeley Farms**.

Back in Alameda, Gravel's pride and joy is an eight-page list of lingo he created for his warehouse operations students, complete with definitions. "It's a living document," he said.

The Department of Labor has been handing out the grants to improve community colleges' ability to train workers in high growth and emerging industries. The community-based job training grant program has awarded $622 million over its four years of existence, including $125 million in its final round of funding in late June.

The money has helped Ohlone College maintain and even expand courses it offers through the **Bay Area Biotech Consortium**'s Career Pathways Project, a partnership that includes **Skyline College** in San Bruno, workforce investment boards on both sides of the Bay, and a group of biotech companies that includes South San Francisco-based **Genentech**.

"Right now, we can't offer as many classes, we are at the mercy of the budget," said **Leta Stagnaro**, associate vice president of academic affairs at Ohlone, which has campuses in Fremont and Newark. The college is now offering half the summer courses it had last year. But federal money directed through the **Alameda County Workforce Investment Board** has allowed the Career Pathways Project to grow. "It allows us to provide training programs for more folks than we would normally be able to," Stagnaro added.

Giordano said she's working to expand the ATLAS program. The school and its partners designed a diesel retrofit program for truckers and others so they can upgrade their equipment, and an office administration for logistics program is set to be offered in September. She also is working to create training programs that can be offered directly at job sites.

"Our next step in developing our outreach to businesses is to offer customized training for workers," Giordano said. "It can be on-site and at the college as well."

Editor@EastBayExpress.com

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CITY OF OAKLAND

Skills & Schmoozing

Scene from an earlier Boot Camp

Small Businesses as a Community

The Craigslist Foundation Wants to Help You Harness the Power of the People

Craigslist may be the easiest, cheapest, and most entertaining way to find an apartment, used appliance or nearly anything else your heart desires, but the site — and its nonprofit offshoot, the **Craigslist Foundation**, which is holding its annual **Boot Camp** at **UC Berkeley** next month — can also help your business expand its role in the community and leverage its power for the purposes of social good.

Focused on community-building in its various forms, the Craigslist Foundation exists, according to director of events **Paige Buck**, "to give people the tools and resources and inspiration they need to empower their communities."

It's an abstract concept, to be sure, but Buck said the one-day Boot Camp is intended to break these ideas down into concepts anyone can use. For businesses, this means hands-on training on topics like leadership skills, social media, and the value of public-private partnerships led by folks from government, philanthropy, and the corporate and nonprofit worlds. "Many small businesses do get deeply involved in their communities, so we want to provide people with tools and resources to do that," Buck said. To that end, the keynote address will be delivered by **Chip Conley**, founder of the **Joie de Vivre** boutique hotel chain, and who will be discussing the meaning of community engagement from a business perspective. Other speakers include **Cindy Gallop**, founder of **If We Ran the World**, which unites do-gooders from all sectors for innovative social justice work, **José Cisneros**, treasurer of the City and County of San Francisco, and, of course, **Craig Newmark** himself. Saturday, August 14, 7:30 a.m.–5:30 p.m. $99–$299. CraigslistFoundation.org

— Ellen Cushing

To share this story, type: obc.hg.pr/bootcamp

Classes & Workshops

Adult Literacy Oakland Tutoring, through and computer literacy program for people ages 16 or older who read below an eighth grade level. Tuesdays–Saturdays. Continues through Dec. 30. Free. Second Start Adult Literacy Program, 1800 Alameda St., Oakland.

Basic [illegible] Set of three sequential classes on the basics of budgeting, cash and accrual accounting, corporate accounting systems and more. Starting Aug. 4. Wednesdays, 1–4 p.m. Continues through Aug. 18. $30. Oakland City Hall, 1 Frank Ogawa Plaza, Oakland.

Stock Basics workshop on investing strategies, led by Bill Mullally. For more information contact [illegible]. Last Thursday of every month, 5 p.m. Free. Alamo Capital, 201 N. Civic Drive, Suite 145, Walnut Creek.

Conversation Classes in Cantonese and Mandarin Wednesdays, Thursdays, Sundays. Continues through Dec. 3. Oakland Public Library Asian Branch, 388 9th St., Suite 190, Oakland. 510-238-3400. OaklandLibrary.org.

CPR and Pediatric First Aid for Childcare Providers With training in first aid, CPR and injury prevention for professional childcare providers. Sat., Aug. 14, 9 a.m.–6 p.m., $80. American Red Cross Oakland Service Center, 3901 Broadway, Oakland.

Craigslist Foundation Boot Camp With speakers and workshops about various aspects of community-building. Sat., Aug. 14, 7:30 a.m.–5:30 p.m. $99–$299. UC Berkeley, Telegraph Ave. at Bancroft Way, Berkeley.

East Bay Women in Business: Master the Art of Public Speaking Author and professional [illegible] Maureen Merrill reveals techniques for effective public speaking. With networking and lunch. Fri., Aug. 6, 11:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m. $35 for chamber members, $45 non-members. Waterfront Plaza Hotel, 10 Washington St., Oakland. 510-836-3132. WaterfrontPlaza.com.

Effective Restaurant Management Discuss [illegible] of challenges and opportunities currently facing the restaurant industry with culinary business strategist Douglas R. Williams and [illegible] and Nicole Davis. Wed., July 28, 2:30–4:30 p.m. Free. OBDC Small Business Finance, 805 Washington St., Ste 200, Oakland.

Excel 2007 Brush-Up For those already familiar with Excel. Wednesdays, 1–3 p.m. Continues through Sept. 15. Free. Opportunity Junction, Delta Community Technology Center, Antioch. 925-776-1133 ext. 118. OPPJCC.org.

Excel Workshop For those with some computer experience. Sign up in advance at www.opportunityjunction.org/training or call 925-776-1133. Tue., Aug. 24, 6–7:30 p.m. Free. Opportunity Junction, Delta Community Technology Center, Antioch. 925-776-1133 ext. 118. OPPJCC.org.

Family Financial Basics Day With activities for kids as well as information/sessions on [illegible] financing, online banking, and more. Sat., July 31, 10 a.m.–1 p.m. Union Bank, 1555 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Walnut Creek.

Free Tax Preparation and Filing Guidance for Low-Income Families Help filing 2007, 2008 and 2009 tax returns. Advance registration required at www.opportunityjunction.org/taxes. Every other Friday, 6 p.m. Continues through Sept. 17. Free. Opportunity Junction, Delta Community Technology Center, Antioch. 925-776-1133 ext. 118. OPPJCC.org.

Hiring a Star Performer Using [illegible] Workshop for businesses looking for new talent, led by consultant JP McDonnell. Tue., Aug. 3, 7:15–9 p.m. Free. Contra Costa County Library Administration Building, 75 Santa Barbara Rd, Pleasant Hill.

How to Market Your Business Against Larger Competitors Using [illegible] Seminar focusing on effective [illegible] media strategy for smaller businesses. Facilitated by branding consultant John Gueras. Thu., Aug. 19, 9:00 a.m. $10 for Oakland members, $20 otherwise. Berkeley City Club, 2315 Durant Ave., Berkeley. 510-848-1800. BerkeleyCityClub.com.

Inside Oakland Business: Forum With a chance to hear from local policymakers and business leaders. Fri., Aug. 20, 8:30–10 a.m. Free for Chamber members; $10 otherwise. Oakland Chamber of Commerce, 475 14th St., Oakland.

Introduction to Corporate Giving [illegible] for nonprofits looking to attract corporate givers. Registration required; go to www.foundationcenter.org/sanfrancisco. Thu., July 29, 4–5:30 p.m. Free. Berkeley Public Library Central Branch, 2090 Kittredge St., Berkeley. 510-981-6100. BerkeleyPublicLibrary.org.

Introduction to Holacracy Techniques in Holacracy, a new organizational operating model for businesses, led by [illegible] and CEO Brian Robertson. Mon., Aug. 2, 8 a.m.–5 p.m. $395. David Brower Center, 2150 Allston Way, Berkeley.

Job Search Toolkit 2010 Job-searching workshop with Career Path of Contra Costa [illegible]. Tue., Aug. 17, 2–3:30 p.m. Free. El Sobrante Library, 4191 Appian Way, El Sobrante. 510-374-3991. www.contra-costa.lib.ca.us/library/branch/[illegible]

Lay Responder First Aid and CPR/AED Instructor Classes Series of three classes covering adult, child and infant CPR and First Aid, led by instructors from the Red Cross. Some prerequisites required. Call 1-888-443-5722 for more information or to register. Starting Aug. 14. Saturdays, 9 a.m.–5 p.m. Continues through Aug. 28. $130. American Red Cross Oakland Service Center, 3901 Broadway, Oakland.

Making Hit Music: Act it Yourself! Five-part workshop on making and marketing music, led by Sam Ricker. Part I covers arranging techniques, while Part II discusses the business of music, including managing a recording session, Wednesday & photo shoot, and [illegible] together & professional press kit. Sun., Aug. 22, 11:45 a.m.–1:45 p.m. $45 general, $30 [illegible] Oakland, [illegible], 2087 Addison St., Berkeley. 510-841-5373 [illegible].com.

Starting and Managing Your Small Business Covering topics such as the business plan, accounting, insurance, and [illegible]. Thu., Aug. 12, 8:15 a.m.–4:30 p.m. $48. Cal State East Bay's Oakland Professional Development Center, 1000 Broadway St., Oakland.

The Marketing Plan With [illegible] on how to create and implement a marketing plan. Thu., Aug. 12, 3:45–5 p.m. $27. CAC Conference Room, 877 Broadway, Suite 217, Oakland.

[illegible] Workshop Focusing on the basics of [illegible] and [illegible] in [illegible] writing, with author [illegible]. Sat., July 31, 2 p.m. Free. Hercules Library, 109 Civic Ave., Hercules. 510-799-8291, HerculesLibrary.org.

[illegible] a Restaurant Learn the basics of operating a successful restaurant, with wisdom on factors like [illegible], menu pricing, purchasing, service and marketing. Mon., Aug. 9, 4:15–8:30 p.m. $27. CAC Conference Room, 877 Broadway, Suite 217, Oakland.

Secrets to Mining the Hidden Job Market Workshop On finding and applying for jobs that aren't advertised publicly. With Marilyn [illegible] of Action Career Consulting. Thu., Aug. 12, [illegible] p.m. Free. Clayton Library, 6125 Clayton Rd., Clayton. 925-673-0659, ClaytonLibrary.org.

Best Brand Use of Social Media Workshop covering topics such as keeping your brand and maintaining customer loyalty with social media, led by [illegible] David Libby. Thu., July 29, 8:30 a.m. $19 for [illegible] members; $30 otherwise. Berkeley City Club, 2315 Durant Ave., Berkeley. 510-549-7000, BerkeleyCityClub.com.

Small-Business Counseling One-on-one appointments with East Bay SCORE. Reservations required. Mondays, Tuesdays, 4:30–7:30 p.m. Free. Berkeley Public Library, Central Branch, 2090 Kittredge St., Berkeley. 510-981-6100, BerkeleyPublicLibrary.org.

Standard First Aid and CPR Class Covering adult, infant, and child CPR, rescue breathing, and choking rescue as well as how to treat cuts, bruises, bone and muscle injuries and other first aid emergencies. Designed to meet OSHA guidelines for the workplace. Mon., Aug. 9, 9 a.m.–5 p.m. $70. [illegible] Red Cross Oakland Service Center, 3901 Broadway, Oakland.

[illegible] First Aid and CPR Class Covering adult, infant, and child CPR, rescue breathing, and choking rescue as well as how to treat cuts, [illegible], bone and muscle injuries and other first aid emergencies. Designed to meet OSHA guidelines for the workplace. Sun., Aug. 1, 9 a.m.–5 p.m. $90. [illegible] Red Cross [illegible] Center, [illegible] Blvd., Union City.

Standard First Aid and CPR Class Covering adult, infant, and child CPR, rescue breathing, and choking rescue as well as how to treat cuts, bruises, bone and muscle injuries and other first aid emergencies. Designed to meet OSHA guidelines for the workplace. Thu., Aug. 5, 9 a.m.–5 p.m. $80. [illegible] Red Cross, 451 [illegible] Pl., [illegible] 510-[illegible]

Workshop [illegible] Hands-on workshops for people with some computer experience. August 18th's screening is titled "The Computer/Word Hands-on Looks Different: What Do I Do?" and August 21st's is called "How Do I Keep Up With The [illegible]?" [illegible] Berkeley. Sat., Aug. 18, 2–4 p.m.; Sat., Aug. 21, 2–4 p.m. Free. [illegible] Library, Central Branch, 2090 Kittredge St., Berkeley. 510-981-6100, BerkeleyPublicLibrary.org.

[illegible] Workshop with [illegible] Vocalization exercises and voice games intended to [illegible] participants to [illegible] scales and songs, and [illegible] techniques. Thu., July 29, 7–9:30 p.m. $35. Rhythmix Cultural Works, 2513 Blanding Ave., Alameda. 510-865-5060, Rhythmix.org.

[illegible] For beginners. Sign up in advance to www.opportunity[illegible].org/evening or call 510-[illegible] 1133. Tue., Aug. 3, 7:30–9 p.m. Free. Opportunity Oakland, [illegible] Community Technology Center, Antioch. 925-776-1133 or 112. [illegible].org.

Write Your Story Writer Workshop With Denise Michelle Harris, author of the [illegible]. [illegible] participants in [illegible] exercises focused on the art of "showing, not telling." [illegible] registration required. Sat., Aug. 21, 1–4 p.m. Free. Bayview Public Library, [illegible]. Hayward. 510-293-8685. Library. [illegible].gov.

[illegible] Writing workshop led by poet Clive Matson. Sun., Aug. 1, 1 p.m. $5 for BFUU members, $20 for non-members. Berkeley Fellowship of Unitarian Universalists, 1924 Cedar St., Berkeley. 510-841-4824. [illegible].

Networking

[illegible] Rotary Club Lunch Meeting for business and community Antioch. Refund business. Call Al [illegible] at 925-[illegible] 6847 for more info. Wednesdays, noon. Continues through Dec. 31. Free. [illegible] Hill Country Club, 3100 [illegible] Hill Rd., Alamo. 925-934-0991, [illegible]CountryClub.com.

American Society of [illegible], Inc., Golden Gate Chapter Call Carl [illegible] at 707-313-[illegible] for more info. Golden Thursday of every month, 7 p.m. Continues through Dec. 31. $46–$55. [illegible] Restaurant, 100 [illegible] Berkeley. 510-[illegible]. www.[illegible].com/

Association of Professional Restaurant [illegible] Open to [illegible] design professionals and students in the green industry. For info, call Sharon [illegible] at 888-872-1720, or e-mail [illegible]@[illegible].net. Second Tuesday of every month, 4–6 p.m. Continues through Dec. 31. $5–$15. Oakland Memorial Building, 3780 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Lafayette. 925-[illegible]

[illegible] Gathering: Golden County/Lafayette [illegible] Membership limited to one person per profession. Third Thursday of every month, 11 a.m. Continues through Dec. 30. [illegible] Lodge, Walnut Creek, 1475 Creekside Dr., Walnut Creek. 925-[illegible]

[illegible] Networking Group, Oakland Membership limited to one business per profession. For more info call 925-[illegible], or e-mail [illegible]. First Tuesday of every month, 12–1:30 p.m. Third Thursday of every month, 12–1:30 p.m. Continues through Dec. 31. Free. [illegible] 21 Diablo Valley Realty, 4910 A. Clayton Rd., Concord.

[illegible] in Business Networking group to inspire word of mouth marketing. First Tuesday of every [illegible], 7:30–8:30 a.m.; Third Tuesday of every [illegible], 7:30–8:30 a.m. Continues through Dec. 31. Free. [illegible] Lafayette, 3518 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Lafayette.

Black Wall Street Business Association First Saturdays Business Development Workshop [illegible] professionals will assist with marketing & business plan development. Meeting held at 4430 International Blvd., Oakland. For info, call 866-[illegible], or visit BlackWallStreet.org. First Saturday of every month. Continues through Dec. 31. Black Wall Street, International Blvd., Oakland. BlackWallStreet.org.

Business Links Networking group of no more than 24 non-competing businesses. Sessions run January–June and July–December. Call 925-934-3007 for more information. Golden and Fourth Wednesday of every month, 12–1 p.m. $45. Walnut Creek Chamber of Commerce, 1777 Botelho Dr. #103, Walnut Creek. 925-934-2007.

Business Development Oakland Networking for Oakland owners who would like to grow their operations via reciprocal referrals. Membership limited to one person per profession. For more info call Rich Golden at 925-[illegible]. Second Tuesday of every month, 7:30–9 a.m.; Fourth Tuesday of every month, 7:30–9 a.m. Continues through Dec. 31. Free. Pleasanton, 5121 Hopyard Rd., Pleasanton. 925-460-0494.

Business Alliance First Wednesday of every month, 7 a.m. Third Wednesday of every month, 7 a.m. Continues through Dec. 31. [illegible], 6680 Regional St., Dublin. 925-[illegible]-7250.

Restaurant Philosophers Meeting Golden Wednesday of every month, 7–8:30 p.m. Continues through Dec. 31. Free. Pyramid Brewery, 1410 Locust St., Walnut Creek. 925-946-1520. PyramidBrew.com/alehouses/walnut_creek.php.

[illegible] Spiritually Ambitious Businesspeople With networking and discussion. First Tuesday of every month, 12 p.m. Free. [illegible], 2929 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley. 510-848-1189. [illegible].

Walnut Creek Chamber of Commerce First Friday Club Meeting Informal coffee klatch and discussion about the economy. Wednesdays, 8:30–10:30 a.m. Continues through Dec. 1. Free. Edward Jones Investments, 1400 Treat Blvd., Suite 200A, Walnut Creek. EdwardJones.com.

Open Call

AUD Gallery Seeks New Artists The gallery is ready for distinctive, high-quality contemporary fine art and crafts. Please submit 5-15 slides of your work; an accompanying list of the works and sale price and retail price; a résumé, bio, or artist statement, and a SASE. Visit AUDGallery.com/join_call.htm for more info. Daily. AUD Gallery, 1892 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 510-843-2527. AUDGallery.com.

Bay Area Labor Heritage/Rockin' Solidarity Chorus The chorus is ready for new members to sing work songs in a variety of styles, from folk to gospel to South African. No audition needed. Chorus is open to anyone, regardless of past experience. Once adult, in Labor [illegible] Oakland. Register at the first [illegible] by phone at 510-398-7225. Every other Saturday, 12:30–4 p.m. Laney College, 0 Fallon St., Oakland. 510-834-5740, 510-464-3210. Laney [illegible].

Bay Area Singing [illegible] The San Francisco Children's Musical Theatre is ready for solo, duet, and group singing by kids ages 4-18 for a one-night singing showcase. Sat., July 31, 11 a.m.–[illegible] p.m. Free. King George Hotel, 334 Mason Street, San Francisco.

Call for Laney College Graduates to Join the Laney Foreign [illegible] [illegible] advance notice of Laney games and events, plus networking [illegible]. To register, call Golden [illegible] Hunt at 510-370-8398, or e-mail [illegible]. Daily. Free. Laney College, 900 Fallon St., Oakland. 510-834-5740, 510-464-3210. Laney [illegible].

Call for Submissions: Pacific Film Archive: Home Movie Day The PFA is looking at home movies on 8mm, Super-8mm, and 16mm formats for a screening [illegible] of international [illegible] Day, through Aug. 31, 11 a.m.–5 p.m. Free. Pacific Film Archive, 2575 Addison Way. PFA [illegible], Berkeley. 510-642-1412, BAMPFA.berkeley.edu.

Open Houses & Fundraisers

[illegible] Premier Daycare Academy Open House With refreshments, tours, and an appearance by the Mayor of San Leandro. Sat., Aug. 18, 11 a.m. Noon. Free. [illegible] Premier Daycare Academy, 250 Garcia Avenue, San Leandro.

[illegible] Berkeley [illegible] Fundraiser With food and music. Funds go [illegible] of a new [illegible]. Sat., Aug. 14, 3:30–8:30 p.m. [illegible] Cafe, 545 San Pablo Ave., Albany. 510-558-0484.

Fundraiser for OPD Police Dogs Police dogs and officers will be on hand [illegible] donations at all 34 Pet Food Express locations. Funds will go toward bulletproof vests and medical kits for the dogs. Sat., July 31, 10 a.m.–7 p.m.; Sun., Aug. 1, 10 a.m.–7 p.m. Free. Pet Food Express, 6398 Telegraph Ave., Oakland. 510-923-0500, PetFoodExpress.com.

[illegible] Open House Meet local [illegible] directors and teachers, experience the centers, tour classrooms, and more. Wed., July 28, 10 a.m.–6 p.m. Free. [illegible] Restaurant, 3050 [illegible] Loop, [illegible].

Sales & Promotions

[illegible] County Business Expo With food tastings, special info, live music, a raffle, and more. Fri., Aug. 20, 4–7 p.m. Free. [illegible] City [illegible] Plaza, 2131 Pear St., Pinole.

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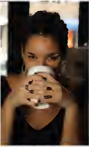

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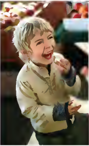

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RESTAURANTS & CAFES

This guide only lists restaurants recommended by Express food critics. You can find complete reviews for all of these restaurants at EastBayExpress.com. Our print listings rotate regularly, as space allows. Our complete Dining Guide is available online, where it is searchable by neighborhood, cuisine, price and more. Price codes assume diners will order a main course and beverage, share appetizers and desserts, and tip adequately. $—up to $10 per person. $$—$10–$25. $$$—$25–$50. $$$$—more than $50.

ALAMEDA

Angelfish 815 Island Dr., Bay Farm, Alameda, 510-749-6400. (Japanese/Sushi) $-$$

Asena 2508 Santa Clara Ave., Alameda, 510-521-[illegible]. (California Cuisine/Greek/Turkish/Organic/Sustainable) $$

Bar Sabores 2329 Santa Clara Ave., Alameda, 510-521-5803. (California Cuisine) $$

[illegible] Bistro 3211 Encinal Ave., Alameda, 510-769-9933. (Chinese) $

[illegible] Southeast 1345 Park St., Alameda, (510) 522-0201. (Southeast Asian) $$

Everett & Jones Barbeque 1930 Main St., Alameda, 510-814-0149. (Barbecue) $$

Forbidden Island 1304 Lincoln Ave., Alameda, 510-749-0332. (Bars/Asian Fusion/Caribbean/Eclectic/Exotic/Hawaiian/Tapas/Small Plates) $$

Mixtos 1569 Park St., Alameda, 510-[illegible]. (Cuban) $$

The Wooden 1313 Park St., Alameda, 510-769-4018. (Tapas/Small Plates) $

La Penca 1440 Park St., Alameda, 510-769-9181. (Mexican) $$

Hawaii Table 3215-A Encinal Ave., Alameda, 510-814-6473. (American/Breakfast/Brunch/California Cuisine) $-$$

Brazilian Hoam 2412 Alder Ave., Alameda, 510-521-3366. (Deli) $

Speisekammer 2424 Lincoln Ave., Alameda, 510-522-1300. (German/Austrian) $$

Sweet Table 1420 Park St., Alameda, 510-365-1441. (Japanese/Sushi) $$

Eno 2310 Santa Clara Ave., Alameda, 510-521-7070. (Eclectic/Fusion/Asian Fusion/Chinese/Hawaiian/Italian/Japanese/Sushi/Korean/Pizza/Seafood/Spanish/Tapas/Small Plates) $$

ALBANY, KENSINGTON & BERKELEY-SOLANO

Ajanta 1888 Solano Ave., Berkeley, 510-526-4373. (Indian/Pakistani/Organic/Sustainable) $$

Barney's Gourmet Hamburgers 1591 Solano Ave., Berkeley, 510-526-8185. (American/Burgers/Sandwiches) $

Bistro 1401 1401 Solano Ave., Albany, 510-528-9900. (American/Southeast Asian/Cajun/Creole/Italian/Burgers/Sandwiches) $$

Bui 1647 Solano Ave., Berkeley, (510) 526-5515. (Vietnamese) $$

Buttercream Bakery & Cafe 840 San Pablo Ave., Albany, 510-528-1754. (Bakery/American) $$

Cafe Ino 1300 Solano Ave., Albany, 510-526-0709. (Breakfast/Brunch/Cafe/Coffeehouse/Organic/Sustainable/Vegetarian/Vegan) $

[illegible] 1150 Solano Ave., Albany, 510-528-3308. (Seafood) $$

Dinast Village 1335 Solano Ave., Albany, 510-528-2285. (Chinese) $-$$

Fatapple's 7525 Fairmount Ave., El Cerrito, 510-528-3433. (Bakery/Breakfast/Brunch/Diner) $-$$

The Hat Shop 909 San Pablo Ave., Albany, 510-528-0051. (Hawaiian) $

Khana Peena 1605 Solano Ave., Berkeley, 510-528-2569. (Indian/Pakistani) $$

Nizza la Bella 825-827 San Pablo Ave., Albany, 510-526-2552. (French/Italian) $$$

Rivoli 1539 Solano Ave., Berkeley, 510-526-2542. (California Cuisine/French/Italian/Organic/Sustainable) $$$$

Saffron Gourmet 1107 Solano Ave., Albany, 510-879-4219. (Middle Eastern) $

Zachary's Chicago Pizza 1853 Solano Ave., Berkeley, 510-525-5950. (Pizza) $-$$

BERKELEY-DOWNTOWN

Alborz Persian Cuisine 2142 Center St., Berkeley, 510-849-0817. (Middle Eastern/Persian) $$

Almare Gelato Italiano 2175 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 510-649-1888. (Dessert/Ice Cream) $

Amanda's Feel Good Fresh Food 2122 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 510-548-2122. (American/Vegetarian/Vegan) $

Andy and Cindy's Thai Kitchen Berkeley Saturday Farmers Market, Berkeley, 510-638-9386. (Organic/Breakfast/Thai/Burmese/Vegetarian/Vegan) $

Angeline's Louisiana Kitchen 2261 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 510-548-6900. (Southern/Soul Food) $-$$

Arinell 2119 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 510-841-4035. (Pizza) $

Au Coquelet Cafe 2000 University Ave., Berkeley, 510-845-0433. (American/Burgers/Sandwiches/Cafe/Coffeehouse/Breakfast/Brunch/Eclectic/Greek) $

[illegible] 2175 Allston Way, Berkeley, 510-704-8758. (Middle Eastern) $$

Beckett's 2271 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 510-647-1790. (American/English/Irish/Pub) $$

Bolo Lounge 2120 Durant Ave., Berkeley, 510-845-3380. (Wine Bar/American/Burgers/Sandwiches/Mexican/Pizza) $$

Bombay House 2031 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 510-845-8380. (Indian/Pakistani) $

Brazil Fresh Squeeze Cafe 2161 University Ave., Berkeley, 510-845-8011. (Brazilian/Deli/South American) $

Cafe Venezia 1799 University Ave., Berkeley, 510-849-4681. (Italian) $$-$$$

La [illegible] 2164 Center St., Berkeley, 510-704-8858. (Mexican) $

[illegible] Cafe 1982 University Ave., Berkeley, 510-845-1432. (Indian/Pakistani/Tapas/Small Plates) $

[illegible] 2126 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 510-540-8000. (Middle Eastern) $

[illegible] 2310 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 510-841-2084. (Dessert/Ice Cream) $

The Hummingbird 2410 Bancroft St., Berkeley, 510-843-8223. (Eclectic/Fusion) $

[illegible] 1980 University Ave., Berkeley, 510-[illegible]. (Mexican)

[illegible] Center Street at Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Berkeley, (Mexican/Vegetarian/Vegan) $

Sweet Pepper 2016 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 510-845-1958. (Thai/Burmese/Vegetarian/Vegan) $

International House 2299 Piedmont Ave., Berkeley, 510-642-9490. (Eclectic/Fusion/Organic/Sustainable) $

Jayakarta 2026 University Ave., Berkeley, 510-540-8866. (Southeast Asian) $-$$

The Mayflower 2050 University Ave., Berkeley, 510-883-9198. (Chinese) $

The Mint Leaf 1513 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 510-540-7900. (Indian/Pakistani) $$

La Note 2377 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 510-843-1535. (Breakfast/Brunch/French) $$-$$$

Oscar's 1890 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 510-849-2304. (American/Diner) $

Full Reviews Online

About 500 reviews searchable by food, region, and price at **EastBayExpress.com** or **m.EastBayExpress.com**

Pomegranate 1600 University Ave., Berkeley, 510-665-5567. (Italian/Middle Eastern) $$

Revival Bar & Kitchen 2102 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 510-549-9950. (American/California Cuisine/French/Italian/Organic/Sustainable) $$$

Tandoor Kitchen 2058 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley, 510-444-3004. (Indian/Pakistani) $

Top Dog 2160 Center St., Berkeley, 510-[illegible]. (American/Burgers/Sandwiches/Hot Dogs/Sausages) $

Yogurt Harmony 2250 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 510-848-5993. (Dessert/Ice Cream) $

Cafe Zabe 1899 Addison St., Berkeley, 510-848-0228. (Japanese/Sushi) $$$

BERKELEY-NORTH

Barney's Gourmet Hamburgers 1600 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 510-849-2827. (American/Burgers/Sandwiches) $

César 1515 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 510-883-0222. (Spanish/Tapas/Small Plates) $$

Cha Am 1543 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 510-848-9664. (Southeast Asian/Thai/Burmese) $-$$

The Cheese Board Pizza Collective 1512 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 510-549-3055. (Bakery/Organic/Sustainable/Pizza) $

Chez Panisse 1517 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 510-548-5525 downstairs/510-548-5049 cafe. (California Cuisine/French/Italian/Organic/Sustainable) $$$-$$$$

Cioccolata Di Vino 1661 Shattuck Ave., Suite C, Berkeley, 510-[illegible]. (Italian/Dessert/Ice Cream/Wine Bar) $-$$

Gioia 1780 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 510-704-8604. (Italian) $$$

[illegible] 1874 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 510-883-1882. (Dessert/Dessert/Ice Cream) $

[illegible] Cafe 1045 [illegible] Ave., Berkeley, 510-526-4915. (Chinese/Indian/Pakistani/Tibetan) $-$$

Fatapple's 1346 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Berkeley, 510-526-2260. (Bakery/Breakfast/Brunch/Diner) $-$$

[illegible] Rose Street at Shattuck Avenue, Berkeley, (Mexican/Vegetarian/Vegan) $

Imperial Tea Court 1511 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 510-540-8888. (Chinese/Vegetarian/Vegan) $

[illegible] 41 Tunnel Rd., Berkeley, 510-548-3515. (American)

Nature's Express 1823 Solano Ave., Berkeley, 510-527-[illegible]. (Vegetarian/Vegan/American) $

Top Dog 2503 Hearst Ave., Berkeley, 510-843-1241. (American/Burgers/Sandwiches/Organic/Sustainable) $

BERKELEY-SOUTH

Adagia 2700 Bancroft Way, Berkeley, 510-647-2300. (California Cuisine/Organic/Sustainable) $$$

Andy and Cindy's Thai Kitchen Tuesday Berkeley Farmers Market, Berkeley, 510-648-7333. (Organic/Sustainable/Thai/Burmese/Vegetarian/Vegan) $

Breads of India 2448 Sacramento St., Berkeley, 510-848-7684. (Indian/Pakistani/Organic/Sustainable) $-$$

La [illegible] 2975 College Ave., Berkeley, 510-[illegible]. (Mexican) $

[illegible] 2740 Adeline St., Berkeley, 510-548-0420. (Bakery/Cafe/Coffeehouse) $-$$

Finfine 2556 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley, 510-883-0107. (African/Ethiopian/Eritrean) $$

[illegible] Derby Street at Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Berkeley, (Mexican/Vegetarian/Vegan) $

Holy Land 2965 College Ave., Berkeley, 510-665-1672. (Middle Eastern) $

Homemade Cafe 2454 Sacramento St., Berkeley, 510-845-1940. (American/Breakfast/Brunch/Diner) $

Kirala 2100 Ward St., Berkeley, 510-549-3486. (Japanese/Sushi) $$

Manpuku 2977 College Ave., Berkeley, 510-848-2536. (Japanese/Sushi) $-$$

[illegible] 2395 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley, 510-356-4000. (Greek/Turkish/Vegetarian/Vegan) $

Norikonoko 2556 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley, 510-548-1274. (Japanese/Sushi) $$-$$$

Berkeley Tea & Cafe 41 Tunnel Rd., Berkeley, 510-549-8585. (American/California Cuisine/Organic/Sustainable) $$$

Top Dog 2534 Durant Ave., Berkeley, 510-843-5967. (American/Burgers/Sandwiches/Organic/Sustainable) $

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WINEAU

From a Land Down Under

New Zealand Sauvignon Blancs,
decent wines for feeling fine.

King Shag! I was chortling like a schoolboy when I picked out this New Zealand Sauvignon Blanc from **Trader Joe's** on College Avenue in Oakland, feeling not a little shady. I buried this wine under the pita bread in my basket and snortled some more. In the land "down under," the word "shag" means just that — doing things ... down under. But when my friend pointed out that the word doesn't necessarily have the same meaning here, I realized that what I thought was marketing genius is really just a bottle of wine named after a rare bird from Marlborough.

I must confess that I am a Kiwi who loves New Zealand Sauvignon Blanc — so perhaps not the most impartial person to be reviewing three bottles of Kiwi Sauvignon Blanc, albeit $7 ones. Besides **King Shag 2009 ($6.99)**, I also bought a **Picton Bay 2009 ($7.99)** and a **Sauvignon Republic 2009 ($6.99)**, making it a hat trick of wines from Marlborough.

My fellow taster and I looked for the grassiness that New Zealand whites are known for as we sipped, but smelled something else we couldn't place. Then I got an e-mail from New Zealand. It's a best-kept secret that Sauvys smell like cat's urine, my childhood friend said. We sniffed again. *Oooh no! Thaaat's what it is!*

Marlborough is on the northeastern edge of the South Island, known for low-lying valleys that were used by the indigenous Maori traders. The area's 65 wineries and 290 vineyards grow everything from Riesling to Pinot Noir.

But Sauvignon Blanc is its signature wine, as the valley offers good drainage and low-fertility soils, which are ideal for that grape. Sauvys are made from green grapes, and their name comes from the word *sauvage*, meaning wild, and *blanc*, or white. Like the Hollywood starlet of the wine world, they are usually consumed young and rarely benefit from aging.

King Shag and Picton Bay were similar — very white and thin. There was some minerality, with a bright acidity to finish. On first taste, we found them inoffensive but wan. Yet after a couple of sips I could taste a subtle stonefruit in the King Shag. The Picton Bay had a hint of Asian pear and a squeeze of grapefruit. There was also a hint of effervescence, which can sometimes be used to cover dodgy flavors, but in this case was sort of charming. I know these wines are supposed to be eaten with fish, fruit salads, and chicken, but we found them too light to pair with a plate of plain chicken and green pepper kebob. They are both best with a stronger dish like my tikka masala.

The tastiest was the Sauvignon Republic, which was more golden and complex, with citrus and passion fruit flavors. It would be the best for sipping on its own. Not brilliant, but more like a box of budgies (in Kiwi parlance, "pretty good"). Especially if you're feeling a bit skint.

— Jody Brettkelly

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R&C

BERKELEY-WEST & EMERYVILLE

[illegible] Bakery and [illegible] 4501 San Pablo Ave. Emeryville 510-547-8580 (Bakery/Pizza/Vegetarian/Vegan) $

[illegible] 1587 Fourth St. Berkeley 510-644-3230 (American/[illegible] Organic/Sustainable) $$

Cafe Fanny 1603 San Pablo Ave. Berkeley 510-524-5447 (Cafe/Coffeehouse/California Cuisine/French/Italian/Organic/Sustainable) $$

Cafe M 1799 1 Fourth St., Berkeley 510-526-4470 (American/Breakfast/Brunch) $$

[illegible] 1453 Dwight Way, Berkeley 510-548-2322 (American/California Cuisine/Organic/Sustainable) $$

[illegible] Cafe 5515 Doyle St. Emeryville 510-547-3582 (Breakfast/Brunch/Diner) $

[illegible] 1722 University Ave., Berkeley 510-841-8320 (Japanese/Sushi) $$

[illegible] Barbeque 1955 San Pablo Ave. Berkeley (510) 548-0651 (Barbecue) $$

[illegible] Cafe 2057 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley 510-704-4083 (Caribbean) $

IKEA 4400 Shellmound St. Emeryville 510-420-4532 (Scandinavian/Furniture & Home Furnishings) $

[illegible] and Sweets 864 University Ave. Berkeley 510-704-1200 (Bakery/[illegible]) $

[illegible] 645 [illegible] St. Berkeley, 510-845-8984 (Mexican) $-$$

[illegible] 1105 University Ave., Berkeley, 510-845-3355 (Indian/Pakistani/[illegible]) $

[illegible] 1140 40th St., Emeryville, 510-923-0311 (Japanese/Bento) $$

[illegible] 1378 Sixth St. Berkeley, 510-525-3271 (Mexican/Organic/Sustainable) $

[illegible] 800 Heinz Ave. Berkeley 510-841-7482 (Italian/Organic/Sustainable) $$-$$$

Rudy's Can't Fail Cafe 4081 Hollis St., Emeryville 510-594-1221 (American/Diner) $-$$

[illegible] 3027 San Pablo Ave. Berkeley 510-841-0738 (Southern/Soul Food) $$

[illegible] Brewery and Grill [illegible] University Ave. Berkeley 510-486-0802 (Grill/Seafood) $

[illegible] 2323 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley, 510-883-1720 (California Cuisine/Organic/Sustainable/Seafood) $$-$$$

[illegible] [illegible] Fourth St. Berkeley 510-665-8880 (Dessert/Ice Cream) $

Spenger's Fresh Fish Grotto 1919 Fourth St. Berkeley 510-845-7771 (Seafood) $$$

Vik's 2390 Fourth St. Berkeley, 510-644-4432 (Indian/Pakistani/Tapas/Small Plates) $

CONCORD, MARTINEZ & PLEASANT HILL

[illegible] [illegible] Clayton Rd. Concord, 925-686-1768. (Peruvian/South American) $-$$

[illegible] 1825 Salvio St., Concord, 925-825-2277 (Eastern European/German/Austrian) $$

[illegible] 2298 [illegible] Ave. Pleasant Hill 925-671-1832 (African) $$

[illegible] 240 Golf Club Rd. Pleasant Hill, 925-887-8458 (Greek/Turkish) $

[illegible] 2227 [illegible] Ave Pleasant Hill 925-798-3383 (Barbecue/Grill) $

[illegible] 1820 Arnold Industrial Way Concord 925-[illegible] (Barbecue/Grill) $

L&L Hawaiian Barbecue 600 Crescent Dr. Pleasant Hill (925) 681-3191 (Barbecue/Hawaiian) $

La [illegible] 2301 Willow Pass Rd. Concord, 925-[illegible] (Mexican) $$

[illegible] 2125 Willow Pass Rd., [illegible] Concord 925-[illegible] $$-$$$

[illegible] Mexicana 2315 [illegible] Diablo St. Concord 925-[illegible] (Mexican/Organic/Sustainable) $$

EL CERRITO, RICHMOND & NORTH

[illegible] [illegible] San Pablo Ave. El Cerrito 510-525-8365 (Mexican) $

[illegible] 3148 San Pablo Dam Rd El Sobrante 510-222-0807 (Italian/Peruvian/South American) $$

[illegible] Pot [illegible] 3288 [illegible] St., Richmond, 510-524-[illegible] (Chinese) $-$$

[illegible] Restaurant [illegible] Pierce St. Richmond, 510-527-3888 (Chinese/Seafood) $-$$$

The [illegible] [illegible] San Pablo Ave., [illegible] 510-[illegible] (American/Seafood) $$$-$$$$

[illegible] Cafe 100 Park Pl. Richmond, 510-991-0248 (American/California Cuisine) $$

Hotel Mac 50 Washington Avenue, Richmond 510-233-0576 (Barbecue) $$$

[illegible] [illegible] San Pablo Ave. El Cerrito 510-528-1578 (Japanese/Sushi) $-$$

[illegible] [illegible] San Pablo Ave. Suite [illegible] 510-724-2832 (Barbecue/Grill) $

[illegible] [illegible] Ave. El Cerrito, 510-232-8979 (Steak House) $$-$$$

[illegible] 250 23rd St., Richmond, 510-234-1952 (Mexican/Peruvian) $-$$

[illegible] Gourmet [illegible] El Cerrito, 510-706-1511 (Italian/Pasta) $$

El Tapatio 510 23rd St., Richmond 510-235-8990 ([illegible]) (Mexican) $

FREMONT, NEWARK & UNION CITY

[illegible] [illegible] Blvd., Fremont, 510-[illegible] (Chinese) $$-$$$

[illegible] Cafe [illegible] Mowry Ave. Fremont, 510-796-3488 (Indian/Pakistani/Tapas/Small Plates) $-$$

De Afghanan [illegible] [illegible] Blvd. Fremont, 510-745-0894 (Afghan/Middle Eastern) $-$$

[illegible] Restaurant [illegible] Washington Blvd Fremont, 510-[illegible] ([illegible]) $-$$

[illegible] [illegible] Rd Fremont, 510-440-1510. ([illegible]/Barbecue/Deli) $

L&L Hawaiian Barbecue 1868 Decoto Rd Union City (510) 324-8888 (Barbecue/Hawaiian) $

Little Sichuan Express 34420-G Fremont Blvd., Fremont 510-608-2580 (Chinese) $

[illegible] Cafe 39155 Paseo Padre Pkwy., Fremont, 510-791-7700 (Chinese/Indian/Pakistani) $-$$

[illegible] 5200 Mowry Ave., Fremont 510-797-7080 (California Cuisine/Italian) $$$

[illegible] Cafe & [illegible] 40800 Fremont Blvd. #4 Fremont, 510-493-8600 (Indian/Pakistani/Pizza) $

New [illegible] 1843 Decoto Rd. Union City, 510-675-9885 (Chinese) $

[illegible] Dim Sum Restaurant [illegible] Mowry Ave. Newark 510-790-2000 (Chinese) $$

HAYWARD & SAN LEANDRO

[illegible]'s Brewery 1062 B St., Hayward, 510-886-5823 (American/Brewpub) $

Gourmet [illegible] 1289 MacArthur Blvd. San Leandro, 510-875-0726 (Asian Fusion/Tapas/Small Plates) $$$

Curry [illegible] [illegible] Blvd. Hayward, 510-583-4583 (Indian/Pakistani) $

[illegible] Barbeque 206 A Street, Hayward (510) 581-3222 (Barbecue) $$

[illegible] Korean Bar-B-Q Restaurant 22305 Mission Blvd. Hayward, 510-886-7782 (Barbecue/Korean) $$

The Hayward [illegible] 22811 [illegible] Blvd Hayward, 510-581-5522 (American/Seafood/Steak House) $-$$

JD's Restaurant and Pies 2637 Castro Valley Blvd. Castro Valley, 510-886-0432 (Diner) $

L&L Hawaiian Barbecue 27380 Hesperian Blvd. Hayward, 510-780-8880 (Barbecue/Hawaiian) $

La [illegible] 564 [illegible] St., Hayward, 510-[illegible] (Mexican) $$

La Pinata 2609 Merced St., San Leandro, 510-352-8801 (Mexican) $$

[illegible] Garden 20590 Hesperian Blvd. Hayward, 510-670-0727 (Filipino/Southeast Asian) $-$$

The [illegible] Hotel 925 B St., Hayward, 510-538-[illegible] (American/Diner) $

[illegible] Restaurant 1282 Davis St. San Leandro, 510-568-4735 (Korean) $$-$$$

Sam's [illegible] Burger 18400 Hesperian Blvd. San Lorenzo 510-278-0320 (American/Diner) $

[illegible] Gourmet Restaurant 414 E. 14th St. San Leandro, 510-533-[illegible] (Caribbean) $$

Thai [illegible] [illegible] E. 14th St. San Leandro, 510-351-[illegible] (Southeast Asian/Thai/Burmese) $-$$

[illegible] Sushi [illegible] E. 14th St. San Leandro, 510-357-9188 (Japanese/Sushi) $-$$

Val's [illegible] [illegible] Kelly St. Hayward, 510-888-0254 (American/Diner) $

[illegible] Restaurant 211 Parrott St., San Leandro 510-351-6680 (Vietnamese) $$

[illegible] [illegible] Foothill Blvd Hayward 510-888-9222 (Chinese/Korean) $

LAMORINDA

[illegible] 3427 Mt. Diablo Blvd Lafayette 925-283-4180 (Barbecue/Organic/Sustainable) $-$$

[illegible] 20 [illegible] Way [illegible] 925-254-3655 (American/Steak House) $$-$$$

[illegible] Lafayette 53 Lafayette Circle, Lafayette, 925-[illegible] (American/California Cuisine/Organic/Sustainable) $$

[illegible] Mexican Cafe 3600 Mt. Diablo Blvd Lafayette, 925-283-6859 (Mexican) $-$$

La Finestra Ristorante 100 Lafayette Circle Suite 101 Lafayette, 925-284-8282 (Italian) $$-$$$

[illegible]'s Restaurant 1 [illegible] Way [illegible] 925-253-0852 (Chinese) $

Lily's [illegible] 3555 Mt. Diablo Blvd Lafayette 925-284-1888 (Mexican) $$-$$$

[illegible] Lafayette 3524 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Lafayette, 925-284-4420 (Asian Fusion/California Cuisine) $$$

[illegible] 3680 Mt. Diablo Blvd Lafayette 925-299-0500 (California Cuisine/Organic/Sustainable/Pizza) $$-$$$

[illegible] 340 Park St., Moraga, 925-[illegible] (Bakery/Organic/Sustainable) $-$$

OAKLAND DOWNTOWN & JACK LONDON SQ

[illegible] Restaurant 850 Broadway Oakland 510-839-8815 (Cambodian/Laotian/Seafood/Southeast Asian/Vegetarian/Vegan) $-$$

La [illegible] 1400 Seventh St. Oakland 510-444-0854 (Mexican) $-$$

[illegible] of India 948 Clay St., Oakland 510-834-2684 (Indian/Pakistani) $-$$

[illegible] Kitchen 2534 [illegible] Parkway Oakland 510-[illegible] (Southern/Soul Food) $$

[illegible] Gourmet 1111 Broadway, Lobby Level of [illegible] Building, Oakland, 510-[illegible] (California Cuisine/Italian) $$-$$$

[illegible] Bar-B-Que 1915 San Pablo Ave. Oakland 510-834-9580 (Barbecue/Southern/Soul Food) $-$$

[illegible] [illegible] 8th St., Oakland 510-[illegible] (Chinese/Seafood) $

La [illegible] [illegible] Clay St. Oakland 510-[illegible] (Southeast Asian/Vietnamese) $$-$$$

[illegible] Cafe 110 Washington St. Oakland, 510-433-5400 (American/Breakfast/Brunch/Cafe/Coffeehouse/California Cuisine/Nuevo Latino/Organic/Sustainable) $$

[illegible] Cafe 336 Eighth St., Oakland 510-839-6233 (Chinese) $

[illegible] [illegible] 2nd St. Oakland, 510-[illegible] (Wine Bar/Tapas/Small Plates/Vegetarian/Vegan) $$

[illegible] Barbeque [illegible] Broadway, Oakland 510-663-2350 (Barbecue) $$

[illegible] [illegible] Telegraph Ave. Oakland 510-[illegible] (California Cuisine) $$-$$$

[illegible] Vegetarian Restaurant 1301 Franklin St. Oakland 510-[illegible] (Chinese/Southeast Asian/Thai/Burmese/Vegetarian/Vegan/Vietnamese) $

Gourmet [illegible] Restaurant 701 [illegible] St., Oakland, 510-[illegible] (Chinese/Seafood) $-$$

[illegible] 388 Ninth St. Oakland 510-[illegible] (Chinese) $

[illegible] [illegible] San Pablo Ave. Oakland

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RECENTLY REVIEWED

Sumo Grub

2243 Milvia St., Berkeley, 510-306-3967. Owner/chef Jason Sum makes and bakes the dough himself for the teen pan pizza that is Sumo Grub's signature dish. Three slices of thick-crusted cheese pizza are tempura-fried into three fluffy, chewy, heavenly wedges each the size and shape of a stapler drizzled with a basil-spiked twenty-ingredient sweet-and-tart creamy vinaigrette known as "sumo sauce." Granted, batter-fried pizza is not for everyone. That's why Sum, whose family also owns Berkeley Thai House and other restaurants, also offers burgers, salads, sandwiches, sausages, Mexican dishes, rice plates, and sides, all at bargain prices. Several items are vegan, some are vegetarian, and some are gluten-free. $

Bay Wolf

3853 Piedmont Ave., Oakland, 510-655-6004. Michael Wild's standard-bearing Cal-Med destination is as essential as when it opened 35 years ago. The frequently changing seasonal menu might include Meyer lemon pasta with grilled prawns and blistered cherry tomatoes, an enormous, juicy rack of pork with braised romano beans, or the house specialty duck, served grilled, smoked, or with its liver transformed into a light, creamy flan. Get the huckleberry pudding for dessert. Comfy setting in a reconfigured Piedmont Craftsman house. $$$$

Revival Bar & Kitchen

2102 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 510-549-9950. Amy Murray's bustling downtown venue celebrates the Bay Area's bounty of fresh, organic foodstuffs with flair and a sense of fun. Pig and marrow flatbread, creamy pork rillettes with lemon chutney, handmade pasta with pea tendrils and trumpet mushrooms, and a mixed pig plate of sausage, tenderloin, shoulder, and belly are among the menu standouts. Get the fruit galette for dessert. Inventive cocktail menu. $$$

Cafe Aquarius

1298 65th St., Emeryville, 510-428-2782. Patrick Feehan opened Cafe Aquarius in 2007 after many years spent learning the pastry trade. A nationwide search for an executive chef led him to Marianne Zelikyan, whose past gigs include Seattle's Boca, Blowfish, and Madison Park Café. Her lemon ricotta pancakes are the restaurant's signature dish: sunny yellow and float-away light. Peet's coffee augments neo-comfort food served in generous portions: egg dishes, burgers, sandwiches, daily specials, and soups. All menus are made from scratch; another standout is the bone-jarringly good biscuits in sausage-studded country gravy. $$

Forbidden Island

1304 Lincoln Ave., Alameda, 510-749-0332. This Alameda hotspot takes the tiki-bar concept to a foodie-friendly level with freshly squeezed juices, house-made syrups, and an inventive approach to the rum-and-coconut scene. Opt for the invigorating Missionary's Downfall, the frothy, fruity Chamborlada, or the sweet and spicy Captain's Grog, and you'll be one happy lounge lizard. Snacks include good guacamole and chips and spicy Buffalo chicken bites. (The chicken strips and mozzarella sticks are worth avoiding.) Fabulous wicker/grotto setting: there's a comfy patio out back, too. $$

Boilerhouse

1414 Harbour Way South, Richmond, 510-215-6000. The southern end of Richmond's old Ford assembly plant has been converted into an expensive industrial-chic event space and restaurant where you can dine on good American grub while enjoying views of the harbor, the bay, and the Berkeley hills. Yummy snacks include sliders, drummettes, and sweet potato fries; skirt steak, Cajun shrimp, and a thin-crusted apple-blue cheese pizza are fine entrée options. Friendly, professional service. $$

510-444-3826 (Caribbean/Organic/Sustainable) $$$
[illegible] 312 15th St., Oakland, 510-899-5038 (Nepalese) $$
[illegible] 412 15th St., Oakland, 510-452-1994 (Japanese/Sushi) $-$$$$
Kal Caribbean 1495 Franklin St., Oakland, 510-836-4125 (Caribbean/Organic/Sustainable/Vegetarian/Vegan) $
[illegible] 1520 Lakeside Dr., Oakland, 510-298-5453 (California Cuisine/American/Breakfast/Brunch/Burgers/Sandwiches/Italian/Seafood) $$$$
[illegible] 822 Washington St., Oakland, 510-835-5565 (California Cuisine) $$$
Lingo 480 Ninth St., Oakland, 510-836-4343 (Eclectic/Exotic/Tapas/Small Plates/Organic/Sustainable) $$
[illegible] Restaurant & Wine Bar 247 Fourth St., Oakland, 510-834-0197 (California Cuisine) $$$
Mua 2442 Webster St., Oakland, 510-238-1100 (Pan-Asian/Asian Fusion/Tapas/Small Plates) $$-$$$
Nellie's 1155 3rd St., Oakland, 510-875-1356 (Southern/Soul Food) $$
Oyster Reef 2000 Embarcadero Ave., Oakland, 510-836-5510 (Seafood) $$$
Ozumo Oakland 2251 Broadway Ave., Oakland, (Asian Fusion/Japanese/Sushi/Tapas/Small Plates) $$-$$$$
Pican 2295 Broadway, Oakland, 510-834-1000 (Southern/Soul Food/American/Barbecue/Cajun/Creole/California Cuisine) $$$$
Restaurant Peony 388 Ninth St., Oakland, 510-286-8866 (Chinese) $$$$
[illegible] 376 13th St. #101, Oakland, 510-839-2290 (Chinese) $-$$
Shashamane 2507 Broadway, Oakland, 510-868-4389 (Ethiopian/Eritrean) $$
Soizic 300 Broadway, Oakland, 510-251-8100 (California Cuisine) $$$
Spice Monkey 1628 Webster St., Oakland, 510-588-0170 (California Cuisine) $$
Spices 3 369 12th St., Oakland, 510-625-8889 (Chinese) $$
[illegible] 388 9th St., Oakland, 510-839-3818 (Chinese) $
top dog 2??? 14th St., Suite 17, Oakland, 510-[illegible] (American/Burgers/Sandwiches/Organic/Sustainable) $
Uncle Willie's Bar-B-Que and Fish 614 14th St., Oakland, 510-465-9200 (Barbecue) $$
Yung Sing Restaurant 888 Webster St., Oakland, 510-839-2110 (Chinese) $

OAKLAND-EAST

[illegible] Restaurant 920 International Blvd., Oakland, 510-444-2500 (Southeast Asian/Vietnamese) $
[illegible] Restaurant 3730 International Blvd., Oakland, 510-534-4775 (Mexican) $
[illegible] 2100 [illegible] Ave., Oakland, 510-238-8819 (Cambodian/Laotian/Southeast Asian/Thai/Burmese) $
[illegible] 2876 Fruitvale Ave., Oakland, (510) 533-0900 (Barbecue) $
Huong Que Cafe 1328 7th Ave., Oakland, 510-835-8488 (Southeast Asian/Vietnamese) $
New Pagolac 811 International Blvd., Oakland, 510-465-8996 (Southeast Asian/Vietnamese) $-$$
[illegible] 3340 E. 12th St., Oakland, 510-893-0196 (Mexican/Ice Cream) $
El Ojo de Agua 3822 E. 12th St., Oakland, (Mexican) $
Old Weang Ping Village 6317 MacArthur Blvd., Oakland, 510-430-8771 (Southeast Asian/Thai/Burmese) $$
[illegible] 3872 International Blvd., Oakland, 510-536-0900 (Mexican) $-$$
Phnom Penh House 3912 MacArthur Blvd., Oakland, 510-482-8088 (Cambodian/Laotian/Southeast Asian) $
Pho Ao Sen 280 International Blvd., Oakland, 510-836-6401 (Southeast Asian/Vietnamese) $
[illegible] 3340 Foothill Blvd., Oakland, 510-[illegible] (Central American) $
Tacos la Sol Corner of International Blvd. and High St., Oakland, no phone (Mexican) $
Taqueria/Pupuseria 4345 International Blvd., Oakland, 510-261-8125 (Mexican) $
La Torta Loca 3419 International Blvd., Oakland, 510-532-7816 (Mexican) $

OAKLAND PIEDMONT, GRAND LAKE & EAST

[illegible] 333 Piedmont Ave., Oakland, 510-601-0305 (Italian/Burgers/Sandwiches/Wine Bar) $$$
The Alley 3325 Grand Ave., Oakland, 510-444-8505 (Bars/American/Burgers/Sandwiches/Steak House) $$
Andy and Cindy's Thai Cuisine Saturday Grand Lake Farmers Market, Oakland, (415) 412-6400 (Organic/Sustainable/Thai/Burmese/Vegetarian/Vegan) $
Barney's Gourmet Hamburgers 4162 Piedmont Ave., Oakland, 510-655-7180 (American/Burgers/Sandwiches) $
Boot and Shoe Service 3308 Grand Ave., Oakland, 510-763-2668 (Pizza/California Cuisine/Organic/Sustainable)
Cesar Latino 4039 Piedmont Ave., Oakland, 510-985-1200 (South American/Tapas/Small Plates) $$
[illegible] 4125 Piedmont Ave., Oakland, 510-655-8834 (French) $$
Commis 3859 Piedmont Ave., Oakland, 510-

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R&C

653-3902. (California Cuisine/Eclectic/Organic/Sustainable) $$$$

Il Bortolo 3308 Grand Ave., Oakland, 510-451-8576 (California Cuisine) $$$-$$$$

Dopo 4293 Piedmont Ave., Oakland, 510-652-3676. (Italian/Organic/Sustainable) $-$$

Grand Tavern 3601 Grand Ave., Oakland. (American/Afghan/California Cuisine/Organic/Sustainable) $$$

Holy Land 677 Grand Ave., Oakland, 510-272-0535. (Kosher/Halal/Middle Eastern) $

Jong Ga House 372 Grand Ave., Oakland, 510-444-7658. (Korean) $$

LoCoco's Restaurant 4270 Piedmont Ave., Oakland, 510-652-6222 (Italian/Pizza) $$

Messob Ethiopian Restaurant 4301 Piedmont Ave., Oakland, 510-428-1122. (African/Ethiopian/Eritrean) $

Mezze 3407 Lakeshore Ave., Oakland, 510-663-2500. (California Cuisine/Organic/Sustainable) $$-$$$

Mijori Sushi 3201 Grand Ave., Oakland, 510-465-8854 (Japanese/Sushi) $$

Sidebar 542 Grand Ave., Oakland, 510-452-9500 (American) $$-$$$

Spettro 3355 Lakeshore Ave., Oakland, 510-465-7758 (California Cuisine/Pizza) $$

Tropix 3814 Piedmont Ave., Oakland, 510-653-2444 (Caribbean) $$

Z Cafe and Bar 2735 Broadway, Oakland, 510-663-2965 (American/Breakfast/Brunch/California Cuisine/Cafe/Coffeehouse/Bars) $$

Zza's Trattoria 552 Grand Ave., Oakland, 510-839-9124 (Italian/Pizza) $$

OAKLAND-ROCKRIDGE

À Côté 5478 College Ave., Oakland, 510-655-6469 (California Cuisine/French/Italian/Organic/Sustainable/Spanish/Tapas/Small Plates) $$$

Barney's Gourmet Hamburgers 5819 College Ave., Oakland, 510-601-0444. (American/Burgers/Sandwiches) $

Flavors of India 2201 College Ave., Berkeley, 510-658-3881 (Indian/Pakistani) $$

Lake Anza Wildcat Canyon and Grizzly Peak Roads, Berkeley, 888-327-2757 (Picnic/Burgers/Sandwiches/Cafe/Coffeehouse/Deli/Dessert/Ice Cream) $

Marcellino 6011 Lendon St., Oakland, 510-985-8386 (Vegetarian/Vegan) $

Mikomo 5731 College Ave., Berkeley, 510-652-6157 (Japanese/Sushi) $$-$$$

Noodle Theory 6099 Claremont Ave., Oakland, 510-595-6988. (Asian Fusion/California Cuisine) $-$$

Oliveto 5655 College Ave., Oakland, 510-547-5356 (Italian/Organic/Sustainable) $$-$$$

Oliveto Cafe 5655 College Ave., Oakland, 510-547-5356. (Italian/Cafe/Coffeehouse) $$$

Top dog 5150 Broadway, Oakland, 510-601-1187 (American/Burgers/Sandwiches/Organic/Sustainable) $

Uzen 5415 College Ave., Oakland, 510-654-7753 (Japanese/Sushi) $$

Wood Tavern 6317 College Ave., Oakland, 510-654-6607 (California Cuisine) $$-$$$

Zachary's Chicago Pizza 5801 College Ave., Oakland, 510-655-6385. (Pizza) $-$$

OAKLAND-TEMESCAL

Andy and Cindy's Thai Cuisine Sunday Temescal Farmers Market, Oakland, (415) 412-6400 (Organic/Sustainable/Thai/Burmese/Vegetarian/Vegan) $

Aunt Mary's Cafe 4307 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 510-601-9227 (American/Breakfast/Brunch/Southern/Soul Food) $-$$

Barlata 4901 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 510-450-0678. (Spanish/Tapas/Small Plates/Wine Bar) $$$

Burma Superstar 4721 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 510-652-2900. (Southeast Asian) $$

Cafe Colucci 6427 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 510-601-7999 (African/Ethiopian/Eritrean/Organic/Sustainable) $-$$

[illegible] 4301 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 510-600-6001 (Peruvian) $

Dona Tomas 5004 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 510-450-0522 (Mexican) $$$

Genova Delicatessen and Ravioli 5095 Telegraph Ave., Building A, Oakland, 510-652-7401 (Deli/Italian) $

Kang Hong Gogi 3702 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 510-450-7988 (Korean) $$

Koryo Wooden Charcoal Barbecue 4390 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 510-652-6007 (Korean) $$

Mama's Royal Cafe 4012 Broadway, Oakland, 510-547-7600 (American/Breakfast/Brunch) $

Marc 49 4915 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 510-652-2150 (Tapas/Small Plates/Wine Bar) $-$$

The Mixing Bowl 4920 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 510-655-5630 (California Cuisine) $$

Ohgane Korean Restaurant 3915 Broadway, Oakland, 510-594-8300 (Korean) $$-$$$

Phat Matt's BBQ 3415 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 510-879-7294 (Barbecue/American/Burgers/Sandwiches/Southern/Soul Food) $-$$

Pizzaiolo 5008 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 510-652-4888. (California Cuisine/Organic/Sustainable/Pizza) $$-$$$

Pyung Chang Tofu House 4701 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 510-658-9040 (Korean/Southern Asian) $$

Salt Seafood 4923 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 510-654-5504 (Seafood/Southern/Soul Food) $

Wooden Barbeque House 2090 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 510-834-5117 (Korean) $-$$

Seoul Gom Tang @ 380 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 510-597-9900 (Korean) $

Sweetie Pie @ Poppa's Authentic Southern Cuisine 5713 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Oakland, 510-547-9743, (Southern/Soul Food) $-$$

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Yet Hai Zo Tong 4789 Telegraph Ave., Farm 6, Pinedom 510-652-3800 (Chinese/Korean) $
Ngo Zo Tang 3810 Telegraph Ave., Oakland. 510-653-2388. (Chinese/Korean) $

TRI-VALLEY

Main Agave Club 679 Main St., Pleasanton, 925-417-1224 (Mexican) $$$
Bridges 44 Church St. Danville, 925-820-7200 (Asian Fusion/California Square) $$$-$$$$
Las Caporales 2130 First St. Livermore 925-449-4454 (Mexican) $
Monte and Domeniques y Vents 210 Rose Ave. Pleasanton. 925-462-0500. (Dutch) $$-$$$
Sonia's Cafe 620 Main St., Pleasanton, 925-846-4222 (American/Breakfast/Brunch) $-$$
Forbes Mill Steakhouse 200 Sycamore Valley Rd. West, Danville, 925-552-0505. (Steak House) $$$$
Ray's Original 122 W. Neal St., Pleasanton, 925-469-9300. (American/Steak House) $$$$
Alkoboss Grill 1083-A Bluebro Pl., San Ramon. 925-830-1144 (Hawaiian) $
Wender's Custom Meats 185 Town & Country Dr. Suite G, Orinda 925-682-6900 (Barbecue/Deli) $
Wender's Custom Meats 4825 Hopyard Rd. Suite F2 Pleasanton 925-461-2333 (Barbecue/Deli) $
Lawrence's Market Smith Point Co. 226-B Smith Plaza, Alamo 925-838-0580 (Barbecue/Deli) $
Market Meats Meats 499 San Marlin Valley Blvd. Danville 925-380-4500 (Italian/Pakistani) $$
Restaurant's Steak & Chop House 7400 San Ramon Rd. Dublin 925-833-8090 (American/Seafood/Steak House) $$$
The Point 960 Moraga Rd. Lafayette, 925-299-5865 (South American/Tapas/Small Plates) $$
Red Smoke Grill 4501 Hopyard Rd., Pleasanton 925-734-0307 (American/Barbecue) $
Wente Vineyards Restaurant 5050 Arroyo Rd. Livermore 925-456-2450 (California Cuisine/Organic/Sustainable) $$$$
Xenia's Smith 115 Smith Plaza, Alamo, 925-855-9000 (California Cuisine/Eastern European) $$
Zachary's Chicago Pizza 3110 Crow Canyon Pl. Suite D, San Ramon 925-244-1222 (Pizza) $-$$

WALNUT CREEK

Babushka Russian Deli & Restaurant 1475 Newell Ave. Walnut Creek, 925-210-0779 (Eastern European) $$
Bing Crosby's 1342 Broadway Plaza, Walnut Creek, 925-939-2464 (American/Steak House) $$$$
La Boheme 1690 N. Main St. Walnut Creek, 925-407-8000 (French/Organic/Sustainable) $$$
Market of India 1558 N. Main St. Walnut Creek, 925-256-7844 (Indian/Pakistani/Organic/Sustainable) $-$$
Georgio's Smith Restaurant 1491 Newell Ave. Walnut Creek, 925-938-4888 (Diner) $
Dantana 1910 Olympic St., Walnut Creek, 925-935-4300 (California Cuisine/Cal Latin) $$
Kopan 1542 Locust St. Walnut Creek, 925-932-5004 (Vietnamese) $$
Wender's Custom Meats 1631 Ygnacio Valley Rd. Walnut Creek, 925-952-7900 (Barbecue/Deli) $
Lark Creek Steak Market 1360 Locust St., Walnut Creek, 925-256-1234 (American/California Cuisine/Organic/Sustainable) $$-$$$
Monsoon's St. Mangia Point 1318 Broadway Plaza Walnut Creek, 925-939-2405 (Deli/Italian) $
CC Point 1571 N. Main St. Walnut Creek, 925-287-8115 (Chinese) $$
Va de Vi Bistro & Wine Bar 1511 Mount Diablo Blvd. Walnut Creek 925-979-0100 (Asian Fusion/California Cuisine/Organic/Sustainable/Tapas/Small Plates/Wine Bar) $$-$$$
Walnut Creek Yacht Club 1555 Bonanza St. Walnut Creek, 925-944-3600 (California Cuisine/Organic/Sustainable/Seafood) $$-$$$

FOOD & WINE

CULINARY & WINE

Flight Night Featuring winemaker Dane Stark of Page Mill Winery, a family-owned Livermore winery noted for producing Petite Sirah from high-quality wines. Call 925-456-2450 to make reservations. Last Thursday of every month, 5-7 p.m. $12-$18. Wente Vineyards Restaurant, 5050 Arroyo Rd. Livermore 925-456-2450 WenteVineyards.com.
Hog Market 15 Annual Presentation of pigs and pork, with educational demos, tastings, fresh sausages, and pasta grilling. Sat., July 31, 1-4 p.m. Free. The Pasta Shop, 1786 Fourth St. Berkeley. 510-528-1786. ThePastaShop.com
Book, Organic Sustainability Tasting With Anastasia Wiklunds of Indie Creek. Thu., July 29, 6:30 p.m. Free. Berkeley Public Library, North Branch, 1170 The Alameda, Berkeley. 510-981-6250.
Opera in the Vineyard Benefit for Livermore Valley Opera with a silent auction, wine tastings, and performances by Pamela Cusumano and Keith Wright who will be singing arias from classic operas. Sun., Aug. 1, 5-8 p.m. $30 advance, $35 at the door. Wente Estate Winery, 1258 Livermore Ave. Livermore. 925-447-8040. RetzlaffWinery.com.
LMTLS, The Made Wine Experience With wine and food tastings from dozens of local vendors and restaurants, in addition to live reggae music. Sat., July 31, 2-5 p.m., $35-$45. Jack London Square Pavilion, 98 Broadway Ave. Oakland.

FARMERS' MARKETS

Livermore Farmers' Market With locally grown fruits and vegetables, plus locally produced goods. Info: visit PCFMA.com. Thursdays, 4:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m. Free. Webster St. at Wright Ave. & Webster St. Livermore.
Bayfair Center Farmers' Market Fresh produce supplied by local organic and specialty farmers. Saturdays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Free. Bayfair Center, 15555 E. 14th St. San Leandro. 510-357-6000. ShopBayfair.com.
Berkeley Market With organic produce, sustainable products, a food court, and performances by local bands. Saturdays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Free. Berkeley Adult School, 1701 San Pablo Ave. Berkeley.
Farm Fresh Choice Community Produce Stand Farm Fresh Choice runs produce stands in culturally diverse, low-income Berkeley neighborhoods. Wednesdays, 3-5:30 p.m. 510-848-1704. EcologyCenter.org. Frances Albrier Community Center, San Pablo Park, 2800 Park St. Berkeley. 510-981-5150. ci.berkeley.ca.us/farmersmarkets/farmersmarkets.
Dimond/Lake Farmers' Market Saturdays, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., free. Splash Pad Park, Grand Ave. and Lakeshore, Oakland. 510-336-7275. OaklandNet.com/Parks/Parks/SplashPad.asp
Growing Youth Project Summer Farm Stand With organic produce and eggs from the Growing Youth Project, a nonprofit that provides nutrition education to residents. Fridays, 3:30-6:30 p.m. Continues through Oct. 1. Ploughshares Nursery, 2701 Main St., Alameda. 510-755-1102. PloughsharesNursery.com.
Kaiser Permanente Hayward Farmers' Market With vendors selling locally grown California produce at the main entrance to the premises. Wednesdays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., free. Kaiser Hayward, 27400 Hesperian Blvd., Hayward.
Kaiser Permanente Oakland Farmers' Market With vendors selling fresh, organic fruits and vegetables. Fridays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. free. Kaiser Oakland, 3600 Howe St. Oakland.
Kensington Farmers' Market With a nursery, fresh flowers, an organic tree products, fresh wild fish, fruits and vegetables, nuts, buttons, fresh pasta, and sustainable seafood. Sundays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Free. Kensington Circle, at the Colusa Circle, Kensington.
Laurel District Farmers' Market Established and maintained by Oakland Food Connection. With certified organic produce from an Organic Farm and a youth-led prepared food booth called the Purple Lawn Cafe. For more info or to find out how to become involved please visit OaklandFoodConnection.org, or call 510-432-2984. Saturdays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Laurel District Farmers, 4125 MacArthur Blvd. Oakland.
North Oakland Farmers' Market Produce, eggs, flowers and more, with an emphasis on small farmers and farmers of color. With live music and free public-oriented workshops each week. Saturdays, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Continues through Dec. 26. North Oakland Produce, 5715 Aileen St.
North Shattuck Farmers' Market Breads, specialty foods, all-organic produce and more for sale, plus special programs and events. Thursdays, 3-7 p.m. Free admission. 510-548-3333. EcologyCenter.org. Shattuck Ave. at Rose St. Berkeley.
Pacific Coast Jack London Square Farmers' Market Seasonal produce, greens, nuts, freshly baked bread, pastries, cut flowers, specialty foods, yoga classes, live music, and arts and crafts for kids. Sundays, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Free. Jack London Square, 70 Washington St. Oakland. JackLondonSquare.com.
Pinole Farmers' Market With local growers and vendors selling fresh California-grown produce. Saturdays, 8 a.m.-12 p.m. free. Fernandez Ave. at Pear St. Pinole.
Point Richmond Farmers' Market Wednesdays, 4-8 p.m. Continues through Oct. 27. Free. Park Pl. (at Washington Ave.).

PICK

Gourmet Ghetto Tour

On Thursday, July 29, 10 a.m. (every Thursday), **Lisa Rogovin** leads a **walking/tasting tour of Berkeley's Gourmet Ghetto**, which includes stops at **Peet's Coffee, Café Gratitude, Grégoire, Saul's Deli, Juice Bar Collective, North Berkeley Farmers' Market**, and other hotspots. Gourmet magazine correspondent Rogovin lets participants talk with chefs, purveyors, and food artisans. 11 a.m., $75 (email lisa@inthekitchenwithlisa.com to register and receive meeting place). InTheKitchenWithLisa.com — *Anneli Rufus*

Shattuck.
Richmond Certified Farmers' Market With produce, fresh seasonal produce, eggs, crafts, and apparel. Fridays, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Richmond Farmers' Market, 24th St. & Barrett Ave., Richmond.
Richmond Farmer's Market Fresh, locally grown fruit, flowers, eggs, and other produce. Fridays, 3 a.m.-5 p.m., Free. Richmond Farmers' Market, 24th St. & Barrett Ave., Richmond.
Saturday Berkeley Farmers' Market Fresh and organic produce, breads, specialty foods, and more for sale, plus special programs and events. Saturdays, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., free. 510-548-3333. EcologyCenter.org. MLK Civic Center Park, 2150 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Berkeley. 510-981-5150. ci.berkeley.ca.us/ContentDisplay.aspx?id=12700.
Temescal Farmers' Market California farmers offer seasonal produce, dried fruits and nuts, fresh ranch eggs, baked goods, locally caught fish, fresh-cut flowers, and more. Info: 510-745-7100. Sundays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. free. DMV Parking Lot, 5300 Claremont Ave. Oakland.
Tuesday Berkeley Farmers' Market Farm and organic produce, breads, specialty foods, and more for sale, plus demos, programs and events. Tuesdays, 2-7 p.m. free. 510-548-3333. EcologyCenter.org. Derby St. (at Martin Luther King Jr. Way), Berkeley.

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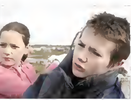
THE RUNAWAYS

Two unwanted kids (*Kisses*) and one grumpy old coot (*Winnebago Man*).

By Kelly Vance



Kelly O'Neill as Kylie and Shane Curry as Dylan in *Kisses*.

The "cute kids from Ireland" craze continues. A few weeks ago, it was **Alison Barry** as **Colin Farrell**'s gabby daughter in **Neil Jordan**'s selkie story *Ondine*. Now we're getting a twofer: juvenators **Kelly O'Neill** and **Shane Curry** as Kylie and Dylan, the similarly gabby (isn't everyone in Ireland glib and poetic?) eleven-year-old protagonists of ***Kisses***, writer-director **Lance Daly**'s slim, stealth mythic tale of two superfluous young people and their trip through Night Town.

"Superfluous" because neither of them is wanted or needed at home. Dylan's dad is a violent drunk who beats everyone in the family he can get his hands on — which means Dylan avoids him as much as possible. Next door at Kylie's, her mother and sisters are just as belligerent. In fact, the two kids' parents, neighbors, and friends in the dreary suburb where they live are uniformly nasty and uncouth. Insults fly thick as fists and every third word is "feckin'." Accordingly, our two runaways are tough but lovable and faithfully rely on each other for support. It's the most natural thing in the world for the two of them to light out for the big city of Dublin late one afternoon to escape the wrath of Dylan's father.

It happens to be the Christmas season and magic is afoot. The film, which has been in black and white all along, slowly slides into full color as the pair gets further away from home. Kylie blows her cash on shoes and candy at the mall and buys Dylan a haircut. Their secrets come out. We notice that Dylan uses an inhaler. They meet the usual sort of people you'd encounter on the road: a friendly canal dredger who gives them a lift (**David Bendito**), a busker (**José Jiménez**), a taciturn Bob Dylan impersonator (busy actor **Stephen Rea**, who no doubt is required by law to appear in every movie produced in Ireland) and a young woman (**Elizabeth Suh**) who may or may not be a prostitute.

After dark, the kids' conversation turns to the Sack Man, a menacing legendary figure who grabs children and carries them off in a sack slung over his shoulder. Dylan and Kylie's nominal quest is to locate Dylan's older brother Barry, who ran away and never returned. But we can see that their real business is to fall in love.

Lance Daly's Ireland is not the scenic Irish wonderland of *Ondine* — it more closely resembles the terror-and-hope-filled young persons' urban twilight zone of ***Somers Town*** or ***Fish Tank***, or to be more aptly Irish, the Old Maid Drag frequented by "Kitten" Braden in ***Breakfast on Pluto***. The two first-timers who play Kylie and Dylan are, of course, more charming by far than any manicured and pedigreed big name entertainer. And yes, Dublin-born-and-raised filmmaker Daly has a definite thing for Bob Dylan. There's also a bit of consumer-friendliness in the addition of English subtitles to the release print. Brogue can only be enthralling when it's understood.

He's **Epic Beard Man**'s older brother. Or maybe one of his former Navy buddies. **Jack Rebney**, [illegible] subject of the documentary ***Winnebago Man***, has at least two other things in common with Oakland's most notorious bus passenger: 1) innate combativeness, and 2) the fact that both men achieved worldwide fame through viral videos.

Back in 1989 in Forest City, Iowa, broadcast newsman and announcer Rebney was on location as the on-screen host of an internal sales training video for the makers of **Winnebago** recreational vehicles. It was a troubled shoot. Rebney seemingly had difficulties getting through each and every line of the script, and when the guys in the production crew noticed, they began egging him on by laughing at him, fiddling with props, etc. They also saved the outtakes, especially Rebney's lengthy profanity-laden tirades. His frustration reached seismic levels. Steam issued from his ears. Surely he was the angriest man in the world.

All this would have been academic, and we'd be discussing ***Dinner for Schmucks*** instead if someone hadn't rescued those 1989 outtakes and privately circulated them, at first on an VHS tape. The "Winnebago Man's" popularity remained at low-cult level until the invention of YouTube, when the phenomenon exploded exponentially. Winnebago Man suddenly became red-hot media hero, but no one knew his name or anything else about him.

Enter **Ben Steinbauer**, a film professor at the University of Texas whose shorts have played at South by Southwest. He tracked down the now eighty-year-old Rebney, living as a virtual recluse in a caretaker's cabin outside Manton, California, east of Redding, in the shadow of Mount Shasta. Rebney, nearly blind and living with a dog named Buddha, has evidently been living underneath his own personal shadows as well, and has actively shunned society. Or he did until Steinbauer came along.

How does the unwitting, unwilling subject of a viral video manage to relate to his newfound celebrity, let alone to his public? The germ of Steinbauer's apparently harmless, seemingly brainless doc goes right to the heart of the community-building aspect of the internet. Grumpy old man Rebney at first barks and snarls at the notion of crazy kids who think they love him because he cussed and fumed on video twenty years ago.

But something strange and wonderful happens when Steinbauer convinces Rebney to accompany him to San Francisco's **Red Vic Movie House** to appear at the **Found Footage Film Festival**. Turns out all the propaganda was true. In their most benign form, viral videos are just another way of connecting, of people communicating with each other. The crowds lined up to see Winnebago Man didn't come to hoot at the freak — they came because they identified with him. And Jack Rebney, the bitter former professional media producer and voice talent who turned his back on network TV news orgs and "shut the door" on the rest of the world, found that no matter how much he bellowed he couldn't resist YouTube.

Steinbauer's doc, with its ostensibly pathetic echoes of ***Best Worst Movie*** and the lonely recesses of cult worship, resists following its subject to a nostalgic dead end and instead helps Winnebago Man create a new persona for himself in front of an adoring crowd on Haight Street. Maybe Epic Beard Man could do the same. In the meantime, you'd be doing Winnebago Man a kindness, in a manner of speaking, by seeking him out on YouTube. ●

To share this story, type: [illegible]/runaways

Editor@EastBayExpress.com

Kisses

Written and directed by Lance Daly. With Shane Curry and Kelly O'Neill. Opens Friday.

Winnebago Man

Directed by Ben Steinbauer. Featuring Jack Rebney. Opens Friday.

MOVIES & THEATERS

To learn where a movie is playing, note the abbreviations at the end of each listing, then consult the theater guide at the bottom of this page. Capsule reviews are written by Andrea Gronvall (A.G.), Colin Hopkins (C.H.), J.R. Jones (J.J.), and Kelly Vance (K.V.). For a schedule of repertory films, see One-Night Stands at the end of these listings. Please send info fourteen days before event date to editor@eastbayexpress.com.

OPENING

Cats & Dogs: Revenge of Kitty Galore Brad Peyton directs the latest installment in the furry spy series. Voice talents on display include James Marsden, Nick Nolte, & Christina Applegate. ATC, BC, BP, CMC, CR, CEPH, EH, CUC, CN, EH, CBC, GL, WMS

Charlie St. Cloud [illegible] directs this Zac Efron vehicle about a man overcome with grief following the death of his [illegible]. BC, BP, CMC, CR, CEPH, EH, CUC, CN, EH, CBC

Countdown to Zero Earnest entry in the "fear documentary" category [illegible] while showering us with statistics. There are nine official nuclear [illegible] and 23,300 [illegible] in the [illegible] and [illegible]. Director-documentarian Lucy Walker [illegible] talking heads Jimmy Carter, Mikhail Gorbachev, Tony Blair, et al. The [illegible] is produced by [illegible] Bender (*An Inconvenient Truth*, *Good Will Hunting*, numerous Tarantino films) (1:31 min.) (K.V.) CAPH, S

Dinner for Schmucks Jay Roach directs this comedy about an executive on the lookout for the perfect guest for his boss's monthly dinner event. Starring Steve Carell and Paul Rudd. ATC, BV, BC, BP, CMC, CR, EH, CUC, CN, EH, EH, GL, WMS

Farewell (L'affaire Farewell) Christian Carion (*Joyeux Noel*) fashions an engrossing espionage drama from a forgotten but crucial episode of the Cold War: the 1981 spy case in which a Soviet intelligence officer [illegible] the French government classified information on KGB networks in the West, ultimately emboldening President Reagan to [illegible] his "Star Wars" missile [illegible]. In human terms, Carion focuses on the uneasy friendship between the [illegible] (Emir Kusturica, director of *Underground*) and a French businessman who becomes his liaison (Guillaume Canet [illegible]), and on the damage their subterfuge inflicts on their respective families. Punctuating the story line are slightly unconvincing scenes involving Reagan (gamely played by Fred Ward) and French president François Mitterrand (Philippe Magnan). Carion might have found a more artful way to [illegible] the men's geopolitical legacy, but this is still pretty interesting stuff. With Willem Dafoe as a [illegible] CIA officer and [illegible] yes, that's him. [illegible] (English [illegible] and French [illegible]) (1:52 min.) (A.G.) [illegible]

Orlando Sally Potter's gender-bending, time-traveling costume fantasy may be a loose adaptation of Virginia Woolf's novel about an English nobleman who [illegible] into a woman, but in the end it's really more about the mystique of Tilda Swinton. [illegible] Queen Elizabeth in 1600 [illegible] Swinton's Orlando [illegible] (and later her) [illegible] (as a [illegible])

Showtimes Online

Movie showtimes and online ticket-buying at EastBayExpress.com

Theater Guide

This guide explains the abbreviations at the end of each capsule. AL = Landmark Albany. ATC = Alameda Theatre & Cineplex. BC = Brenden Concord. BE = Cinemark Blackhawk. BP = Brenden Pittsburg. BV = AMC Bay Street 16. CA = Landmark California. CAPH = CineArts Pleasant Hill. CB = Century Bayfair. CBC = Contra Costa Cinemas. CEPH = Century Pleasant Hill. CH = Century Hilltop. CHY = Century Hayward. CN = Cinedome Newark. CRC = Regal Crow Canyon. CHC = Chabot Space and Science. CUC = Century Union City. CWC = Century Walnut Creek. DB = AMC Deer Valley. GL = Grand Lake. JL = Regal Jack London. MA = [illegible]. OR = Grand. [illegible]. PFA = Pacific Film Archive. PIE = Landmark Piedmont. [illegible] = [illegible] Cinema Center. [illegible] = Rialto Cinemas Elmwood. [illegible] = Regal Hacienda. [illegible] = [illegible] Theater. S = Landmark Shattuck. UAB = UA Berkeley. UAEB = UA Emery Bay. V = Vine. WMS = West Wind Solano.

John Wood (as Hoo...) and Billy Zane as Orlando's soul mate, a flamboyant gothic-romantic hero. Meanwhile Swinton plays the 350-year-old Orlando as an artistic man and ... her specialty ... an imperious woman. It's her pre-Michael Clayton signature role and Sally Potter's high-water mark. (93 min.) (KV)

Winnebago Man See our week's review. (85 min.) (KV)

ONGOING

The A-Team Joe Carnahan directs and updated movie version of the TV classic. Starring Liam Neeson, Bradley Cooper, and Sharlto Copley. (AM)

Agora This sprawling, puzzling English-language costumer by Chilean [illegible] Alejandro Amenábar takes us to the city of Alexandria, Egypt in the 3rd century CE, where the newly emergent Christians are rioting in the streets against the paganism of the famed Alexandria library, as well as against the scientific teachings of the astronomer Hypatia (Rachel Weisz). (127 min.) (KV)

Cyrus The Baghead boys, writing-directing updated Jay and Mark Duplass, try their hands at a bigger-budget, comparatively grown-up relationship drama. And it hops. (92 min.) (KV, CA, PM, UAB)

Despicable Me As if to remind us of what we'd otherwise be missing, Universal and superior computer animation family romp contains just one each of the following: fart jokes, topical references that will fall over kids' heads, and dance numbers in which the characters bust some moves to a Seventies disco hit. The topical reference is pretty funny, actually, and everything else about the movie is wonderful, especially the visual and character design. (95 min.) (CD, UAOC, BS, BC, CB, CEPK, CK, CUC, CM, CCC, CAC, UAB, SPMT)

Exit Through the Gift Shop Fascinating documentary, as far as it goes. Pseudonymous London-based street art graffiti artist Banksy directed this account of how Los Angeles shop owner and street art aficionado Thierry Guetta parlayed his love of clandestine guerrilla artwork ... into about a thousand miles of speed footage of taggers in action over the years ... into a career as a high-profile, high-priced artist in his own right, known as Mr. Brainwash. Very funny. (87 min.) (KV)

Get Him to the Greek Familiar Judd Apatow guy-comedy scenario has a secret weapon: British bad boy Russell Brand, here reprising his hilarious "Aldous Snow" rock-star character from Apatow's Forgetting Sarah Marshall. Hilarious. Shocking/Heaven... professional minder Aldous is attempting to revive his career with a concert at Los Angeles' Greek Theatre — and it's up to hanger-on Aaron Green (Jonah Hill), a frustrated record label operative, to babysit Aldous all the way from London to the gig, through a gauntlet of drugs, sex, wild parties, etc. (109 min.) (KV)

The Girl Who Played With Fire (Flickan som lekte med elden) The further adventures of Sweden's avenging computer hacker/street fighter Lisbeth

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BEST EAST BAY THEATRE
East Bay Express, S.F. Chronicle Readers Poll

WE HAVE RESUMED DAILY MATINEES FOR THE SUMMER BREAK.

INCEPTION (PG13)
FRI. 2:15 3:30 7:00 10:00
SAT 12:15 3:30 7:00 10PM show in AUD #4
SUN THRU: 12:15, 3:30 7:00, 10:00

DINNER FOR SCHMUCKS (7/30) (PG13)
DAILY 11:45, 2:15 4:45, 7:15, 9:45
Auditorium #2 is upstairs and is not wheelchair accessible

CATS AND DOGS 2 in 3D (PG)
DAILY 12:00 2:00 4:10 6:00 7:45, 9:35

INCEPTION (35MM Print) (PG13)
FRIDAY 2:00 6:00 9:00
SATURDAY 2:00 6:00 10:00
SUN THRU: 2:00 6:30 9:00

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M&T

Salander (Noomi Rapace), the magnetic sociopath [illegible] on Lisbeth's sorrowful past, as she and journalist Mikael Blomkvist (Michael Nyqvist) [illegible] to stop an international sex trafficker (Georgi Staykov) and his giant blond bodyguard (Micke Spreitz). Director Daniel Alfredson and screenwriter Jonas Frykberg, adapting the late Stieg Larsson's mega-popular series of novels, throw in plenty of violence but [illegible] on Lisbeth's inner [illegible]. The [illegible] girl's current rage takes place [illegible] her own [illegible] [illegible] min.) (K.V (CAPH, RL, PM, V

The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo (Man som hatar kvinnor) A Stockholm magazine journalist with a fraud conviction hanging over him (Michael Nyqvist) joins forces with the title character, a rebellious, pierced computer hacker (Noomi Rapace), to investigate a forty-year-old missing persons case involving a family of rightwing Swedish industrialists. [illegible] takes his time [illegible] the [illegible] between haggard [illegible] Mikael (Nyqvist) and seething [illegible] Lisbeth (Rapace) but once they get rolling and things get ickier, the action is exciting and unnerving, in an [illegible] way (152 min., 2009, not rated) (K.V) B

Grown Ups Watching a comedian grow old is always sad, but in the case of Adam Sandler the subject [illegible] to the running vehicle from his [illegible], crony-ridden Happy Madison Productions, five old pals (Sandler, Chris Rock, Kevin James, David Spade, and the [illegible] Rob Schneider) reunite with their families at a lakeside retreat to rehearse the old [illegible] and [illegible] gags, work through their [illegible], and grow [illegible] at the sappy [illegible] (102 min.) (JJ) BS, [illegible]

I Am Love (Io sono l'amore) Tilda Swinton shows [illegible]. The well-traveled English actor hits a [illegible] as the Russian-born matron of a family of rich industrialists in Milan, Italy, a part that calls for her to be [illegible] and imperious but [illegible] at the [illegible] of it all. Well, two out of three isn't bad. (120 min.) (K.V) [illegible]

Inception Mission Incomprehensible: Leonardo DiCaprio and his crew of [illegible] spies invade the subconscious minds of their [illegible] as they sleep in order to steal corporate secrets. Or some such. Which gives writer-director Christopher Nolan an excuse to drag in lots of expensive [illegible] and a huge, largely [illegible] cast (Ellen Page, Marion Cotillard, Michael Caine, [illegible]) and to loop the plot back on itself endlessly (148 min.) (K.V [illegible]

Joan Rivers: A Piece of Work Personal documentary look [illegible] into the daily life of the [illegible] female stand-up comic [illegible] heights, and we're happy to part company after an hour and a half. One thing we can conclusively say about Ms. Rivers: She doesn't know the meaning of the word "quit." (84 min.) (K.V.) [illegible]

The Karate Kid Expensive [illegible] update of the 1984 franchise-starter cleverly reverses the [illegible] flow of the original. Now twelve-year-old [illegible] (Jaden Smith) is the [illegible], who moves with his mother to Beijing for his [illegible] in the auto industry. [illegible] is a thoughtful, [illegible] Mr. Han (Jackie Chan) is the [illegible] to help him ward off the usual pack of martial-arts bullies (140 min.) (K.V [illegible]

Khatta Meetha Priyadarshan sculpts this comedy/romance remake of a Malayalam hit. Starring Akshay Kumar.

The Kids Are All Right [illegible] blows at [illegible] screenwriting [illegible] this [illegible] what happens to a suburban [illegible] couple (Annette Bening, Julianne Moore) when the [illegible] "bio-dad" of their [illegible] (Mark Ruffalo) shows up and [illegible]. Writer-director Cholodenko (Laurel Canyon, High Art) and co-screenwriting partner Stuart Blumberg have a [illegible] eye for the [illegible] of contemporary California life, and the three lead performances [illegible] ethics, not only of modern child-raising, but of life itself. (104 min.) (K.V [illegible]

Knight and Day Flying home for her sister's wedding, Cameron Diaz gets [illegible] up with [illegible] agent Tom Cruise and together they try to keep a [illegible] weapon from falling into the wrong hands. Cruise and [illegible] have worked together before (in Vanilla Sky), but [illegible] first summer-movie [illegible] and their star [illegible] – [illegible] good [illegible] shape, [illegible] together, [illegible] chemistry they generate a sort of glory, [illegible] (110 min.) [illegible]

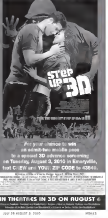
Kung Fu Panda Whereas DreamWorks Animation's Shrek series has [illegible] (and quite brilliantly) [illegible] fairy-tale mythology under the guise of popcorn entertainment, [illegible] *Kung Fu Panda* is winning but a [illegible] homage to kung fu cinema (88 min.) [illegible]

The Last Airbender M. Night Shyamalan directs the live-action remake of the popular anime. Starring Jackson Rathbone, Nicola Peltz, and Dev Patel. [illegible]

Let It Rain (Parlez-moi de la pluie) The most satisfying of all the collaborations between French actors-writers Agnès Jaoui and Jean-Pierre Bacri (*The Taste of Others*, *Look at Me*). [illegible] but ambitious politician (Jaoui) revisiting her family home in the South of France while being filmed by a local news video producer (Jamel Debbouze) and his inept cameraman (Bacri), [illegible] funny "huh?" The Jaoui-Bacri formula typically [illegible] the annoyance factor, and here their characters are more than usually annoying. She's vain [illegible] supercilious, he's a [illegible] of nerves and somewhat sexist (110 min.) (K.V) [illegible]

Micmacs (Micmacs à tire-larigot) Where's Audrey Tautou? This agreeable fairy tale by [illegible] Frenchman Jean-Pierre Jeunet has all the [illegible] and kinetic energy of Jeunet's *Amélie* and *Un long dimanche de fiançailles*, but lacks a [illegible] enough to carry the load (105 min.) (K.V) [illegible]

Mysteries of Egypt [illegible] Geographic and a [illegible] of [illegible] reveal the [illegible] legends, history [illegible]



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THE GIRL WHO PLAYED WITH FIRE
NOW PLAYING
STARTS FRIDAY!
THE GIRL WITH THE DRAGON TATTOO NOW AVAILABLE ON DVD & VOD

and most importantly, mysteries — of ancient Egyptian civilization. CSC

Pirate Radio For people who can't even get enough Sixties rock on the [illegible] dial, the film event of the year. But practically anyone will find a laugh in the antics of a crew of rebel deejays blasting the sport Who, Twiggs, Kinks, Hollies, Easybeats, Jeff Beck, Dusty Springfield, et al., to English listeners from a ship anchored in the North Sea. (135 min.) (KY, JAMC)

Predators Heavily armed badasses, trapped by a force unknown in an unexplored jungle, are [illegible] by the title species, which made its debut in the Arnold Schwarzenegger/Jesse Ventura [illegible] Predator (1987). Among [illegible] there's an [illegible] (Adrien Brody), a [illegible] Guatemalan freedom fighter (Alice Braga), a Southern-fried death-row psychopath (Walton Goggins), and an enforcer for a Mexican drug lord (Danny Trejo). This is less a [illegible] of the original sport ABC's Lost, heavy old sport War II propaganda, and all the money in the world. The dialogue is [illegible] dirt, and the plot [illegible] in the [illegible] but the sport does what a loud [illegible] should, which is [illegible] (107 min.) (C.B.) (BV, CB, CH, CGC, RH, IL)

Ramona and Beezus Ramona Quimby, the rambunctious schoolgirl of Beverly Cleary's beloved books, lands on the big screen after 60 years, and [illegible] from a few slapstick set pieces (most notably, a car wash that leaves the vehicle covered in multicolored paint), this [illegible] captures the sense of everyday childhood [illegible] Cleary's meanings of children's literature. The [illegible] is weirdly anachronistic, with its goofy characterizations like of the 1950s (Henry Huggins, [illegible] Robert, [illegible] Kemp) and its soundtrack of [illegible] pop hits ("Walking on Sunshine") but [illegible] probably won't [illegible] your eight-year-old. For the grownups there are [illegible] sincere performances by Ginnifer Goodwin, Bridget Moynahan, and, as Ramona's endearingly goofy father, the likable John Corbett, [illegible] (103 min.) (AJ, JAMC, BV, BC, BR, CB, CEPH, CH, CMC, CRC, RH, IL, UA, CB)

Restrepo [illegible] embedded. Journalist filmmakers Tim Hetherington and Sebastian Junger spent [illegible] with a platoon of US Army troops in the Taliban-infested Korengal Valley in eastern Afghanistan ("the most dangerous place on earth") as the soldiers man a treacherous [illegible] outpost. [illegible] their [illegible] alternate with [illegible] meetings with valley elders and the incessant firefights. The best [illegible] is that we learn to respect the young soldiers, [illegible] and childish as they are, [illegible] they perform a duty no one [illegible]. Easily one of the very few documentaries from the Iraq/Afghanistan war years that lingers when the lights go up. (93 min.) (KV, JB)

Salt [illegible] as elite [illegible] are taught to [illegible] their weapons blindfolded, screenwriter Kurt Wimmer (Ultraviolet, Law Abiding Citizen) seems to have [illegible] a bag full of stale [illegible] a [illegible] in which the hero [illegible] spots of surveillance cameras, a [illegible] stunt in which she leaps from the roof of one moving vehicle

another, a [illegible] to [illegible] annihilation on brightly [illegible] computer screens [illegible] and [illegible] together in the dark. (100 min.) (AJ, JAMC, BV, BC, BR, CB, CEPH, CH, CMC, CR, CCC, CRC, RH, IL, UA)

The Secret in Their Eyes (El secreto de sus ojos) Brooding Argentine crime [illegible] intrigue [illegible] in the story of a [illegible] investigator [illegible] digging up the goods on a 25-year-old rape/killing. (127 min.) (KV, ACE)

Shrek Forever After [illegible] the [illegible] installment in the Shrek series, in which Shrek [illegible] a deal with Rumpelstiltskin. Voicing Mike Myers, Cameron Diaz, and Eddie Murphy. (JAD)

Solomon The story of everyone's favorite [illegible] of [illegible]. CSC

Solitary Man Michael Douglas delivers a performance to stand alongside his "Wall Street" Gordon Gekko, in this [illegible] [illegible] aging New York businessman [illegible] Kalmen (Douglas) is seemingly trying to [illegible] his ways after getting [illegible] but his [illegible] is always to compete — especially when it comes to women. He can't resist being the player. This [illegible] continues [illegible] Susan Sarandon, new stepdaughter Imogen Poots, and old buddy Danny DeVito [illegible]. [illegible] with Mary-Louise Parker and Jesse Eisenberg. (90 min.) (KV, JAMC)

The Sorcerer's Apprentice gives the filmmakers [illegible] disappeared with a [illegible] in Arthurian England; this [illegible] Harry Potter knockoff is a [illegible] tasty [illegible] of popcorn. [illegible] Alfred Molina [illegible] plot to [illegible] a magical [illegible] resembling a [illegible] Nicolas Cage [illegible]. The [illegible] of the struggle depends on Jay Baruchel, who's got Daniel Radcliffe beat for nerdy charm, playing an [illegible] young [illegible] who must learn to believe in his powers. The tone is both gentler and darker than the Potter pictures, and some of the magic battles in New York City landmarks are eye-popping; there's also a genuinely affecting romance between Baruchel and newcomer Teresa Palmer. Jon Turteltaub directed. (C.B.) (AJ, BV, BC, TH, BC, BR, CB, CEPH, CH, CGC, CA, CRC, RH, IL)

South of the Border Oliver Stone explains Latin American politics. In a [illegible] of [illegible] as Oliver Stone and his documentary crew visit [illegible] Wall Street and Yankee neo-con bugaboos to Venezuela's Hugo Chavez to find out what drives

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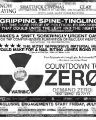

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rule social justice apparently. According to screenwriters Tariq Ali and Mark Weisbrot, the freely elected "neo-liberal Bolivarian" social-democrat governments in Venezuela, Brazil, Argentina, Paraguay, Bolivia and Ecuador are the leading edge of a new wave in the Western hemisphere. We shall see. (78 min.) (3:1, ACL)

Something Special Stewart Raffill directs this feature about a group of friends who enter a music video contest for awards. (V)

Surf's Up from Sam A surfing penguin heads for the tropics in Jackson, two-session project from Sony animation feature (The Best was Open Season). (2:1) (V)

To Be an Astronaut Whoever wants to be? Take a trip inside the gates of NASA for an IMAX-enhanced view of everything from training to lift-off (40 min.) (CSC)

Toy Story 3 Toy Story 3 — Woody (voice of Tom Hanks), Buzz Lightyear (Tim Allen), and the rest of two now-outdated toys get accidentally donated to a daycare center. But it's a sinister place after lights out, ruled by a pink, outwardly-kind strawberry (Ned Beatty). Their new additions to the ensemble: Barbie and Ken, of course, ... Ken voiced by Michael Keaton. (103 min.) (PLY, ACC, BV, BV, CB, CEPH, CH, CUC, G, S, CPC, RH, JL, UAB)

The Twilight Saga: Eclipse The return for anyone other than the swears through this third chapter of the phenomenally fanatic gothic-lite romance enmeshed (124 min.) (KV, CS, BV, BC, BP, CB, CEPH, CH, CUC, S, RH, X)

Winter's Bone A 17-year-old girl (Jennifer Lawrence) struggles to care for her mentally incapacitated mother and two younger siblings. The situation grows even more dire after her daddy, known for making crystal meth, signs their home over to a bail bondsman and then disappears; she needs to find him before his family is evicted. The portrait of a 21st-century mountain community is completely persuasive. With John Hawkes. (100 min.) (3,3,6, V)

ONE-NIGHT STANDS

THURSDAY, JULY 29

Bandits (90 min., 2009): A Theater Near You: The Best and Brightest in Restored Films and Restorations (PFA, 7:00)

Salt: The Dog Movie (87 min., 2009): Post-show by filmmakers Barry Stone and ... Benefits the Berkeley-East Bay Humane Society (RCC, 7:15)

FRIDAY, JULY 30

The Lodger (84 min., 1944): Cinemad Manic (PFA, 7:00)

King Kong (104 min., 1933): Summer Movie Classics (Paramount Theatre, Oakland, 8:00)

The Farm (45 min., 1998): Berkeley Community Media Presents Free Film Fridays (Civic Center Park, Berkeley, 8:30)

The Boston Strangler (116 min., 1968): Cinemad Manic (PFA, 8:45)

SATURDAY, JULY 31

Sanjuro (96 min., 1962): Akira Kurosawa Centennial (PFA, 6:30)

Scandal (104 min., 1950): Akira Kurosawa Centennial (PFA, 8:30)

The Rocky Horror Picture Show (100 min., 1975): Live movement/cast performance by Barely Legal (Grand Lake Theater, Oakland, midnight)

SUNDAY, AUGUST 1

More Than a Miracle (103 min., 1967): Master: The Cinema of Francesco Rosi (PFA, 5:00)

Bandits (90 min., 2009): A Theater Near You: The Best and Brightest in Restored Films and Restorations (PFA, 7:00)

The Soul (... min., 2009): Film Screenings at La Peña (La Peña Cultural Center, Berkeley, 7:00)

TUESDAY, AUGUST 3

Roll on Wheels (90 min., 2007): Post-show Q&A session with Theater Ball Way (RCC, 7:00)

Total (91 min., 2007): Post-show Q&A session with ... (RCC, 9:00)

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 4

The Idiot (166 min., 1951): Akira Kurosawa Centennial (PFA, 7:00)

Benefits (108 min., 1998): Total of ... and Life (Humanist Hall, Oakland, 7:30) ●

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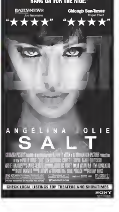
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THE GENERAL

Orukusaki forays from rap battles to spiritual visions.

By David MacFadden-Elliott

Some people remember their first schoolyard fight. **Orukusaki** remembers his first rap battle. It's been a long day — his car broke down five minutes from work, and is in a shop in El Sobrante — but Orukusaki summons every detail.

"[A friend] showed me a flyer to a show," recalls Orukusaki. "It had **Souls of Mischief**, **Tone Loc**, **Rahzel**, this whole hip-hop line-up. At the top, in graphic, electronic letters, I thought it said 'Breakfest,' [like] hip-hop and break-dancing. We drove all the way out to Mountain View, and we get there and I'm [seeing] the people and the styles and I'm like, 'This kind of looks like a rave.' Then it dawned on me that it wasn't called Breakfest, it was called Freakfest.'"

Nevertheless, Orukusaki found his way to the hip-hop stage. He wound up battling, and easily dispensing with four amateurs before winning a hundred bucks from judge Tone Loc.

"What's your name?" asked Tone "Funky Cold Medina" Loc.

"Orukusaki."

"Oruku *what?*"

Some people think — mistakenly — that Orukusaki's name is derived from **Master Shredder**, villain of the **Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles** franchise, who was born "Oroku Saki." That would be fitting, the rapper said. "I kinda do be shredding folks — lyrically," he explained. But in reality, "Orukusaki" translates to absolutely nothing. It's neither a Japanese word, nor a direct pop culture reference. The El Sobrante-raised rapper was born **Alfredo Griffin**. He's half black, half Italian. His stage name originated as an alter-ego he used when playing the sci-fi video game ***StarCraft***. Not only did "Orukusaki" have a nice lilt — it also conjured images of a Japanese general.

"Somehow that merged into my emcee name," Orukusaki said. And seeking a definition for himself he decided it means "He who walks the path of truth and follows his dreams."

The battle rapper is a sub-species of the emcee. His path is a crooked one, roaming cities seeking worthy opponents to test his skills. His weapons are speed, lyrical dexterity, and pre-prepared quips about current events that can be tailor-suited to any adversary. This tradition comes from much earlier than **Eminem**'s big-screen battles in ***8 Mile***, before **Nas** TKO'd **Jay-Z** with "The Ether," even before KRS-One and Marley Marl led their troops — from South Bronx and Queensbridge respectively — into all-out lyrical war.

At the basis of each of these battles is the simple boast: I'm better than you. Orukusaki took his boasts to local battles, made a name for himself, and battled across the land, as far as New York. From the get-go, Orukusaki tried to take battling beyond the insults that help slay an opponent. He recalls, "I've said my fair [share] of fucking ridiculous jokes, but I've also dropped down hella real science in battles, which is quite rare. I'd address the crowd directly. We need to bring hip-hop to real battling, not just wack ass jokes," — before adding the requisite diss — "And this motherfucker looks like **Herman Munster**."

Orukusaki

Although Orukusaki battled nationally-known emcees like **Rhymefest** (Rhymefest won after demanding an extra round) and **Jin** (the match was left undecided but Ruku felt victorious), the emcee's crowning achievement was winning the **SF MC Battle**.

"[The SF MC Battle] for me was the epitome. Even before I started battling, these were the battles I'd look up to. When I won that, I was like, 'All right.' I realized that if I wanted to go all the way with it, I'd have to actually sit down methodically, think of this guy, [and] write a Mad Lib rap. Insert: race, gender, style, real name."

With a record boasting more ticks in the "W" than the "L" column, Orukusaki tired of the pre-packaged jokes and stopped battling in 2007. "I never officially hung it up," he said. "I just went more like a monk/samurai/kung fu master into seclusion to focus on other elements and factors of life." However, he keeps his wits sharpened to defend against and vanquish any challenger that emerges.

Last year Orukusaki dispensed of a foe outside an art gallery on Haight Street, after the other guy got unruly in a rap cypher. He recounted the incident smugly: "It's like a sword that's always there."

At this point, Orukusaki has more room to speak his mind on record. His album ***Japan-Francisco***, released in limited edition CD in Japan, and now available locally through record label **Thizzler on the Roof**, reaches deep into politics and spiritualism. True to its name, the album features beats from Bay Area producers, as well as their Japanese counterparts.

At the end of "American Aftermath," a song that deals with the **Hurricane Katrina** fall-out, Orukusaki explores the shouting out of friends with a list of "corporations that are in the government's back pocket," including "**Halliburton, Blackwater, Lockheed Martin**." On "Could Have Been," a smooth, horn-laced beat from **Yakkle** (residing in Berkeley by way of Kobe, Japan), the emcee raps, *Trigger happy PD is how my brother got shot/And left bleeding/So I'm just glad that he's still breathing/'Cause he almost got killed for no reason.*

Orukusaki says these lyrics are autobiographical. The incident began with a domestic dispute, which led to a near-tragic misunderstanding — and a cop putting two through his brother's body. Orukusaki's recap is long and involved, but it ends with a clear moral. "For cops to think they can do that, whether it's cops shooting my brother, cops shooting **Oscar Grant**, it makes me kinda mad. I'm not a violent person, but I'm like, 'Yeah, you know, maybe someone needs to just jack two cops and shoot em in broad daylight. Leave a little note. Post it on YouTube.'"

He laughed, looked around the nearly-empty restaurant, and added, to no one in particular, "I'm not an advocate for shooting police. Just to throw that out there."

On "Previous Me," a nostalgic, game show-sounding beat by the Bay's **Unagi**, Orukusaki delivered his take on the after-life: *My soul came back to planet Earth in the form of a baby/And that's what has these skeptics straight up calling me crazy/Scientists can't prove me wrong, there's always a maybe.*

Orukusaki's quest for enlightenment has him continuously looking to the past and keeping an eye on the future. On "Secrets of Self," which was released with an eight minute video in 2007, he depicts the Romans ransacking Egypt, *They burned the scrolls that explained the soul ... Hieroglyphics, highly-scientific/Sacred arithmetic, borderline mystic ... When humanity is ready for the secret of self/It just might be two-thousand-and-twelve.*

So does he really think the apocalypse is coming in 2012?

"I don't think it's like a Y2K thing. It's more like based on just evolution of the planet, and then there's certain astronomical stuff that's gonna happen as far as certain planets moving into alignment. And I've done some research on this too [...] There's unexplainable shit that science can't even explain. Dreaming, for one."

Regardless of whether the world comes unglued, Orukusaki won't be able to get to the next step on his path — be it work or a battle — until he gets his car fixed. "I was never rapping to get hella money or get paid or drive big cars. I'd just like a car that wouldn't fucking overheat. That's about it." ●

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RETRO BUMPS, FUTURE THUMPS

Robyn and Kelis genuflect to the past while looking to the future

By Lee Hildebrand

Disco, that much-maligned '70s genre driven by four-on-the-floor bass drum patterns, never actually died. After racist (perhaps even homophobic) disc jockeys and rock critics with their cries of "disco sucks" and record-burning bonfires helped put it out of business in 1979, disco simply morphed into a variety of styles and gained new respectability under such monikers as "house," "techno," "electro pop," "synthpop," "dancehall," and "club music." "Thump music" might be a better name, as these sub-genres employ the same four-on-the-floor bass drum patterns developed by R&B studio musician **"Mighty" Earl Young** at Philadelphia's **Sigma Sound Studios**. Now those grooves emanate from drum machines rather than living, breathing drummers, thus eliminating the need for studio set-up time and paying union scale.

"Thump" prevailed at San Francisco's **Mezzanine** club last weekend when two internationally popular divas hit the stage and gamely proved the genre's longevity. **Robyn**, thirty-one, of Sweden and **Kelis**, thirty, of the USA — both of whom go by their first names only — recently joined forces for a six-city **All Hearts Tour**, which became a sonic elaboration of eras past. Saturday's sold-out show at Mezzanine offered four ways to deliver the thump in live performance. **Far East Movement**, an Asian-American foursome from LA made up of three rappers (who made their entrance in space helmets) and **DJ Virman** (who donned a monkey head at one point), let the turntablist handle the thump during a thirty-minute opening set that included the club favorite "Girls on the Dance Floor." High-pitched English tenor **Dan Black** followed for another thirty, backed by a rock guitarist and bassist but with a machine supplying the incessant throbs on some numbers; the more syncopated grooves of "Symphony" and "Yours" offered welcome reprieves from the steady fours.

Kelis was once on the cutting edge of R&B, incorporating elements of hip-hop, rock, metal, punk, and even samba into her extremely catchy tunes. But she's had a rocky, four-year recording hiatus, during which time she divorced rapper **Nas** with much acrimony and was awarded $55,000 a month in support for herself and their baby boy Knight. The Harlem-bred singer-songwriter returned to record in May with both feet in the techno camp. Although her new album ***Flesh Tone*** contains some her most personal lyrics to date — two of the disc's strongest tracks, "Acapella" and "Song for the Baby," are about her now-ten-month-old son — their rhythms are often disturbingly stilted.

For Saturday's date, Kelis was backed only by two turntablists and a drummer whose primary role was to embellish, rather than provide, the thumps, which were pre-recorded. Wearing a tight pantsuit cut out to reveal her ample cleavage, she moved about the stage with snake-like grace. Her hips swayed left to right while her shoulders moved right to left, right hand waving above her glitter-sprinkled head.

Kelis [illegible]

The svelte vocalist programmed her eighteen-song, fifty-minute set as a club DJ might. She alternated pitch between a raspy alto and a bitterish mezzo-soprano while segueing from the nine *Flesh Tone* songs to oldies like her 2003 smash "Milkshake," hooks from her hip-hop collaborations with Ol' Dirty Bastard and Loon, and tunes that are better known in Europe and Australia than in the U.S. There were few breaks between numbers, the thump flowing uninterrupted from one to the next. She spoke twice to the capacity crowd of one thousand, but her words were inaudible due to the cheering din. The only special effect was a sea of red confetti that blew from above the stage into the audience during "Acapella."

Kelis's sexy segment was subdued in comparison to Robyn's high-energy, seventy-five-minute closing set. The blonde-haired Swede has been performing since she was twelve, and, unlike Kelis, is no newcomer to the techno game. Her simple, hypnotic English-language tunes began penetrating U.S. and UK charts in 1995, with "Dancing on My Own," from her new *Body Talk Pt. 1* CD, making the biggest dent to date.

Once you've gone tech, you'll never go back, she proclaimed in perky soprano tones during the 75-minute set's opening song, "Fembot," from the current CD. Supporting her were two keyboardists and two actual drummers whose interplay, while maintaining steady thumps, added rhythmic variety and excitement that had been largely missing earlier in the evening. She even picked up a pair of sticks during the song "Who's That Girl" and joined in by pounding on one of the drummer's tom-toms. Garbed less revealingly than her co-star in a black top, short red skirt, black tights, and white tennis shoes, Robyn was in constant motion. She hopped, skipped, and bounced about the stage, hips sometimes grinding, arms often flailing, while mixing material from *Body Talk Pt. 1* with older favorites such as "Cobrastyle" and "Show Me Love." Six rapidly swirling and color-changing spotlights further enhanced the excitement of Robyn's music and movements. Specters of '70s disco hovered in the wings. ●

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Esperanza Spalding

Chamber Music Society

In 2005, bassist **Esperanza Spalding** became the new hot, ultra-fashionable musician on the New York jazz scene, and she won't dissipate any time soon. In her case the term "young lion" always seemed too austere. Spalding has been the subject of jazz magazine photo spreads, a fawning *New Yorker* profile, Gap ads, and glowing critical encomiums. She toured with **Stanley Clarke**, **Patti Austin**, and **Joe Lovano**, and released two albums that fell comfortably in the "Latin jazz fusion" vein. Sex appeal notwithstanding, it's easy to see why she drew in a mixed listenership. Spalding has vocal pipes to match her bass chops, and she sings in a crispy voiced lilt that recalls the young **Ella Fitzgerald**. Her songs sound hip and contemporary.

This year's ***Chamber Music Society*** is bolder, riskier, and more labored than her previous efforts, and it has what those albums lacked: A fully-developed concept. Here the bassist reconciles her classical roots with her interest in Latin fusion. The album's opener "Little Fly" is an old fashioned ballad laden with fat, dreamy violin harmonies. Those chord changes prompt Spalding to sing in a different style: Smoother and more buttery than usual, like a high-voiced **Judy Garland**. Even more warbly is "Apple Blossom," which features thick-accented guest vocals from **Milton Nascimento**. Both tracks are Spalding originals, as are most songs on *Chamber Music Society*. In all, it's an elegant, layered, intensely studied album, as Spalding works to blend seemingly diffuse styles into a solid whole. She alternates the dense string sections with rubberband basslines, Latin polyrhythms, and long swaths of wordless scat. All that work pays dividends. Spalding may take risks, but she wastes not a moment on superficial experimentation. (Heads Up)

— *Rachel Swan*

Best Coast

Crazy For You

We've all had relationships that hover between that ecstatic euphoria called love and unadulterated insanity. Sure, you knew they're bad for you. But in that blind, perhaps stoned, blissed-out moment, you can't walk away.

Such is **Best Coast**'s debut full-length ***Crazy for You***, which generated a huge buzz when tracks began leaking it weeks before the July 27 release date. Throughout the album guitarist and lead singer **Bethany Cosentino** tackles the subject of unrequited — or rather not-quite requited — love in all its most unmanned forms. It's **Patsy Cline** all over again, but with cooler hair, green drugstore sunglasses, and a beloved cat called Snacks (featured on the cover).

The sound is more of that hazy, lo-fi surf pop that made big waves in former singles and EPs. This time it's coupled with startlingly honest lyrics that explore the one-sided love affair in all its dizziness. The title track is about the inherent, often contradictory feelings relationships inspire (*I want to kill you/but I'd miss you*). "I Want To" is the slow exasperating whine of overwhelming desire (*I want you so much/and I want you so much*). "Boyfriend" wrestles with innocence and longing (*I hope that he's at home waiting by his phone/I wonder if he knows that I want him?*).

It's true that the ups and downs of relationships have been done before, but the love crusts have rarely sounded as good. Cosentino's perspective is so fresh and direct that the old theme of heartbreak resonates in a new way. Like girls' night after a bad break up, these twelve tunes are surprisingly optimistic and twice as addictive as the kind of relationships Cosentino croons about. (Mexican Summer)

— *Katie Buono*

Double Vision

Bifocal

We won't be revoking your hipster card any time soon, **Double Vision**. Not after that lovely ode to skinny jeans and fat pockets. "Skinny Jeans" is the masterpiece of this Los Angeles hip-hop duo's new impressive debut — and a worthy centerpiece it is. Built around a chunky two-step beat, the song emanates cool. *Bass on blast/Just let the beat bang/Pants saggin off my ass/I just let them bitches hang*, raps **Mackamillion** (a.k.a. **Jonathan Lindsay**). His intonation is slow and deliberate. He rolls each consonant and slurs each vowel. In the course of the song, Mackamillion and twin brother **Mr Mackmore** (a.k.a. **Jarred Lindsay**) name-check **JanSport** backpacks, slashed bandanas, and a popular dance called **the Jerk**. Each verse ends in a catchy refrain: *So fresh, so cool, lookin' clean in my skinny jeans*.

Double Vision works the twin angle beyond the point of ostentation, and clearly it's what defines it. The MC's voices are so similar that if you didn't see two heads on the album jacket, you might think it was one guy rapping. *Bifocal* succeeds on the merits of its slangy raps and groove-driven beats. Producers **Jeff "Stress" Davis**, **Jansport J**, **Marcus D**, and **The Pushitters** sure make some interesting music. Many of the tracks sound like riff based instrumentals, rather than looped samples. "Walk on By" uses a doo-woppy vocal chorus. "Other Side" has a drawn out horn solo. Bonus track "It's You" is just plain funky. *Bifocal* isn't perfect, but it goes well for a fledgling hip-hop group. Surely these twins will be rapping long after skinny jeans go out of style. (No Sleep)

— *Rachel Swan*

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Death Valley High

Doom, In Full Bloom

Falling at the harder end of the indie rock spectrum, members of Death Valley High describe themselves as "dance, core." *Doom, In Full Bloom* is an album you could dance to in that awkward indie kid way, but it's certainly not dance music. Dark, with aggressive guitar riffs and a strong sense of rhythm, it has a bit of a goth vibe, but heavier. (Attenuator Records)

At SubMission Art Gallery (2183 Mission St., San Francisco) on July 31, 8 p.m. SF-Submission.com

Interstellar Grains

IG2

Interstellar Grains sound like what you'd get if you gene-spliced a classic drone rock outfit with a group of jazz improvisationists, then added a '70s funk band. *IG2* has a loose, free flowing feel. It shifts from one mood to another smoothly, but the overall sense of improvisation and experimentation remains. (Guy Joseph Music)

At Café Du Nord (2170 Market St., San Francisco) on July 30, 9:30 p.m. $10. CafeduNord.com

Generalissimo

Western Medicine

Openly political rock bands? One might be forgiven for assuming they went out of style. But Generalissimo proves the assumption wrong. *Western Medicine* isn't comfortable to listen to, and it's not meant to be. Yet it's pretty great stuff if you like your rock cold, aggressive, and mildly unsettling. (Arbeit Macht Diago)

At The Hemlock (3248 22nd St., San Francisco) on July 23, 9 p.m. $6. HemlockTavern.com

Mike Eckstein

Far West Day Dream

There's something amusingly depressing about *Far West Day Dream*. The whole album feels like an ode to heavy drinking, moping, and contemplating. In other words, it's really more country than anything else. Not a cheerful record, but it's skillfully executed and rather pretty in its folkier moments. (self-released)

At Nomad Cafe (6500 Shattuck Ave., Oakland) on July 30, 7 p.m. free. NomadCafe.net

Bay Area bands, show us what you've got. Send CDs to Local Links c/o the *East Bay Express*. To share this story, type: ebx.ly.pc/lide

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CONCERTS & CLUBS

THURSDAY 29

EAST BAY

Blues, Folk & Country

[illegible] The Ubooze Rock, 8 pm, free
Kenny Loggins Mountain Winery, 7:30 pm, $39.50-$89.50
Petrosonic University of California Botanical Garden, 5:30 pm, $12-$15
Queen of Las w/ Family Lines, Freight & Salvage, 8 pm, $18.50-$20.50
Toby Keith w/ Trace Adkins, Sleep Train Pavilion, 7:30 pm, TBA

Classical & Opera

Hand Jaffe solo guitar, Café Cava Wine Bar, Restaurant & Gallery, 7-9 pm, free

Jazz, Lounge & Cabaret

Infinitum La Peña Cultural Center, 8 pm, $10, $5 students
Thursday Night Live rotating live bands, Zoka Trattoria, 8-10 pm, free

Rock & Pop

The Spazmatics Ireland's Irish Sports Bar, 9 pm, free
[illegible] Party w/ Under Arrest, The [illegible], Rock, Club, 8 pm, free

More Listings Online

Get info about hundreds of musical events at EastBayExpress.com or m.EastBayExpress.com

Soul, Funk, R&B & Hip-Hop

[illegible] The Layover, 8 pm, free

World, Latin, Reggae & Reggaeton

[illegible] Band Jupiter, 9 pm, $5
LaDama Yoshi's, 8 & 10 pm, $20
[illegible] Sweet Plaza, 8:30 pm, free
[illegible] Night w/ DJ [illegible], plus [illegible], Venue's Bar & Café, 9 pm, $10

SAN FRANCISCO

Blues, Folk & Country

[illegible] County Line w/ Emily Bonn & The Vivants, Walking in Sunlight, Hotel Utah, 9 pm, $8
Eric Lindell Slim's, 8 pm, $15
[illegible] Night all-star blues jam, Skip's Tavern, 9 pm, free
Lucky Peterson Biscuits & Blues, 8 & 10 pm, $20
Villagers w/ Bart Gripadas, Greg Ashley, Rickshaw Stop, 8 pm, $10, $12

Classical & Opera

The [illegible] Yerba Buena Gardens, 12:30 pm, free

Jazz, Lounge & Cabaret

[illegible] [illegible] and [illegible] pop-culture figures in Snow White travels around the world in search of Prince Charming, Club Fugazi, 8 pm, $25-$77
Dotty Fu Hilton San Francisco Financial District, 1:11 pm, free
[illegible] San Francisco-based sweet performs live like and [illegible] Top of the Mark, 1:30-11:30 pm, $10

Rock & Pop

Artbeatsg featuring art and live music from The Bottom of the Song, Li Po, 8 pm, free
Big Head Todd & The Monsters The Fillmore, 8 pm, tba
[illegible] w/ Stonehaven, Mary [illegible]

[illegible] w/ [illegible] Metal, Thee Parkside, 9 pm, $8
A [illegible] w/ Twilight Sleep, Café du Nord, 9 pm, $10
[illegible] w/ [illegible], Cartographer, Hemlock Tavern, 9 pm, $6
Band 330 Ritch, 10 pm, $10, $12
Highcastle w/ Genesis Climber, Slim's, 8 pm, $5-$6
Mojo Stew Johnny Foley's Irish House, 8 pm, free
[illegible] w/ The [illegible], Bottom of the Hill, 9 pm, $8
Rock [illegible] Johnny Foley's Irish House, 9:30 pm, free

World, Latin, Reggae & Reggaeton

Samba Jamas UCSF Mulberry Conference Center, 7:30 pm, $19-$29
Flamenco Thursdays traditional music & dancing w/ Kenneth Parada & Stephanie [illegible], Peña Pachamama, 8 pm, $12
[illegible] w/ [illegible], Yoshi's San Francisco, 8 pm, $18-$22

FRIDAY 30

EAST BAY

Blues, Folk & Country

[illegible] Band Cafe Van Kleef, 8 pm, free
[illegible] Head The Saddle Rack, 8 pm, free
Jim Brown w/ [illegible], Freight & Salvage, 8 pm, $18.50-$20.50
The [illegible] Yelo Cafe Events, 8 pm, free
[illegible] Jack London Square, noon, free

Classical & Opera

Music, [illegible] a benefit for the Oakland Public Conservatory of Music, Piedmont Piano Company, 8 pm, $20 donation

Gospel & Vocal

[illegible] Holy Names College, 7:30 pm, free

Jazz, Lounge & Cabaret

Advanced High [illegible] Jazzschool, 8 pm, $15
How To Succeed in Business Without Really Trying featuring Diablo Theater Company, San Ramon Valley High School, 8 pm, $12-$15
John Pizzarelli Yoshi's, 8 & 10 pm, $24, $5 kids for matinee
Sage [illegible] Trio Cafe [illegible], 8 pm, free
[illegible] Center Rose Garden, noon, free
Zoë Ellis Jupiter, 8 pm, free

Rock & Pop

Abe & [illegible] 21 Grand, 8:30 pm, tba
[illegible] featuring [illegible], Natalie Amaya, C. [illegible] and the Night, & [illegible] on Telegraph, 9 pm, $10
The Chop Tops Uptown, 9 pm, $8-$10
[illegible] Club 21, 8 pm, $10
Make Me w/ [illegible] Uptown, 9 pm, free
The Spirits of the Red City w/ [illegible], The Bastards, Stork Club, 8 pm, tba
[illegible] w/ English Beat, Mountain Winery, 7:30 pm, $38.50-$75
[illegible] Englander Sports Pub, 8 pm, $15 donation
Violatian w/ Death Grinnell, [illegible], Automatic Machine & Spells in The Basement, 924 Gilman, 7:30 pm, $7
[illegible] w/ [illegible] and the [illegible], Craneway Pavilion, 9 pm, $6

Wolf Parade w/ [illegible], Fox Theater, 8 pm, $21.50
[illegible] w/ Caliush, Eli & Bodie Yoga, Oakland [illegible], 8 pm, $8

World, Latin, Reggae & Reggaeton

Daniel [illegible] live [illegible] guitar, Reggae on Solano, 1:30 pm, free
[illegible] Pacific Film Archive, 1:30 pm, $8
[illegible] La Peña Cultural Center, 8 pm, $12-$14
[illegible] The Plow Plough, 9 pm, $8, $12

SAN FRANCISCO

Blues, Folk & Country

KPIG [illegible] w/ Carolyn Sue Kay, Great American Music Hall, 8 pm, $30
Larry Carlton The Mezzanine San Francisco, 8 & 10 pm, $22-$30
Lucky Peterson Biscuits & Blues, 8 & 10 pm, $20

Jazz, Lounge & Cabaret

[illegible] musical revue and spoof of pop-culture figures in Beach Blanket Babylon; Snow White travels around the world in search of Prince Charming, Club Fugazi, 8 pm, $25-$77
Dotty Fu Hilton San Francisco Financial District, 1:11 pm, free
[illegible], Bothered, & Beauty Hotel [illegible], 10:15 pm, $20
[illegible] Mint Plaza, noon, free
[illegible] Red Poppy Art House, 8 pm, $15 donation
[illegible] Plumpjack, 8 pm-midnight, free

Rock & Pop

Avalanta w/ Jonas Pandream, Soft Beauty, Hemlock Tavern, 9:30 pm, $7
Bare Wires w/ Ty Segall, The Sandwitches, 8 pm, $5
Day in the Gloom w/ [illegible], Hotel Lounge, 8 pm, $8
[illegible] w/ [illegible] Hotel, [illegible] Hotel Utah, 9 pm, $8
The Burgers w/ [illegible], The Independents & [illegible], 9 pm, $8
[illegible] w/ [illegible] & Scarlet Stars, Kanell's, 9 pm, $5-$8
Interstellar [illegible] w/ [illegible] Band, Cafe Du Nord, 8:30 pm, $10
Mad Caddies w/ The [illegible] Foundation, Kung Pow, Bottom of the Hill, 9:30 pm, $15
The P-M Johnny Foley's Irish House, 8 pm, free
Sabbath w/ Death Angel, Augury & Motley Vodka, Slim's, 8 pm, $21-$23

Soul, Funk, R&B & Hip-Hop

Kansas Players Grant & Green, 9:30 pm, free
[illegible] The [illegible] Soul Sister: [illegible] 8 pm, $5
Party [illegible] Project w/ 40 Love Delta, 10 pm, $10

World, Latin, Reggae & Reggaeton

[illegible] Peña Pachamama, 8 pm, $15, $16
[illegible] w/ Sang Mele, El Rio, 8 pm, $8

SATURDAY 31

EAST BAY

Blues, Folk & Country

[illegible] Live [illegible] music at Gather's patio During the [illegible], Gather, 11 am-4 pm
[illegible]: An Evening of [illegible] Irish and [illegible] Traditional Music featuring [illegible], Crown Songband, & Little Black Train, Starry Plough, 8 pm, $10
[illegible] Cafe Van Kleef, 8 pm, free
[illegible] Head The Saddle Rack, 10:15 pm, free

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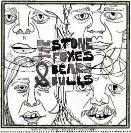

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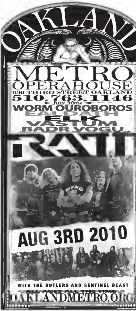


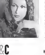
PICKS

Kinky Friedman

Kinky Friedman and his band, **The Texas Jewboys**, laid waste to the world of country music in the early '70s, with satirical songs that turned the music inside out and won him as many enemies as friends. In the '80s he retired to write detective novels like ***Kill Two Birds and Get Stoned***. He ran as the independent ticket for Texas governor in 2006. Friedman has since left the political arena, but he still pursues music and literature, writing with equal fervor. This week, he'll combine those interests, reading from his novels and performing hits like "They Ain't Makin' Jews Like Jesus Anymore" and "Asshole From El Paso." His stripped-down trio will include **Little Jewford** and **Washington Ratso**. Friedman performs Friday, July 30 at **Great American Music Hall** (859 O'Farrell St., San Francisco). 9 p.m., $30. GAMH.com. *— J. Poet*

Joanna Newsom

With her Renaissance outfits, baroque language, and thin, Cabbage Patch doll voice, **Joanna Newsom** always seemed like an odd choice for the hipster generation. And that's not to mention her instrument of choice — a custom-made, gilded pedal harp from **Lyon & Healy**. That said, it's clear that Newsom's style transcends the strictures of era and genre. She sings in a sparse, backwoods, Appalachian twang that verges on being medieval. Her melodies hew to a modern folk-rock form, but the natural delicateness of harp music makes it always seem a little older, a little dreamier, and a little more ethereal. Five months since dropping her third album, ***Have One on Me***, the **Mills College** graduate returns to the Bay Area for a night of celestial strings and little-girl vocals. She performs Monday, August 2 at **Fox Theater** (1807 Telegraph Ave., Oakland). 9 p.m. $30. TheFoxOakland.com. *— Rachel Swan*



Berkeley Opera

Now that it's housed in a larger, more resonant venue that can do the singers justice, **Berkeley Opera** is set to reprise Wagner's ***Legend of the Ring***. A new adaptation by David Seaman condenses the epic four-opera, fourteen-plus-hour Ring Cycle into a single evening. Seaman honors all the major music themes, while slicing through some of the great scenes. Singers **Richard Paul Fink** (Wotan), Ian **Hunter Morris** (Siegfried), **Marie Plette** (Sieglinde and four others), and **Dean Peterson** (Hagen) all graced **the Met**'s stage at some point in their careers, and they all have sequoia-big voices. Fink and Hunter will try their roles for the first time in Berkeley Opera's *Ring*, which should make for particularly exciting theater. *Legend of the Ring* runs Friday, July 31 (8 p.m.) and Wednesday, August 4 (7:30 p.m.) at **El Cerrito Performing Arts Theater** (540 Ashbury Ave., El Cerrito). $10-$65. 800-838-3006 or BerkeleyOpera.org. *— Jason Victor Serinus*

The Watson Twins

The Watson Twins

If it's true that siblings have a knack for making the best music, the **Watson Twins** manage to up the ante considerably, given that they came from the same egg. Since moving to California's trendy Silverlake neighborhood in 1997, the Kentucky-born sisters have earned quite a reputation for their duet harmonies. They got plenty of work harmonizing for local groups like **Orphan Train**, **Joe Firstman** and **Fairchild**. Not to mention a then little-known **Rilo Kiley** and its beguiling singer **Jenny Lewis** championed these southern belles early on. Lewis' support went as far as sharing equal billing with the Watson twins on her 2006 solo debut opus ***Rabbit Fur Coat***. The twins subsequently struck out on their own, releasing their sophomore effort ***Talking to You, Talking to Me*** earlier this year. Not quite the old timey music they've become known for, this new record instead taps into the sounds of early '70s Laurel Canyon-inspired soft rock, with the zeal of *Tapestry*-era **Carole King**. It's a beguiling sound, especially in a live setting. The Watson Twins play Tuesday, August 3 at **Café du Nord** (2170 Market St., San Francisco). 8 p.m. $10-$12. CafeduNord.com. *— Dave Gil de Rubio*

C&C

Rodeo Noose The Saddle Rack. 7:15 pm, free

The Saddletramps w/ Western Swing, Speedhammer. 8:30 pm, free

Strange Angels Blues Band Art House Gallery & Cultural Center. 8 pm, $10 donation

Jazz, Lounge & Cabaret

[illegible] Quartet [illegible]. 8 pm, free

How To Succeed In Business Without Really Trying featuring Cupola Theater Company. San Ramon Valley High School Performing Arts Center. 8 pm, $12-$15

Jazz & Joy Taste of Joy. 5:30 pm, free

John Pizzarelli Yoshi's. 8 & 10 pm, $24, $5 kids for matinee

[illegible] Jazzschool. 8 pm, $10

Tom McDermott & Frank French Piedmont Piano Company. 8 pm, donation

requested

Rock & Pop

[illegible] Presents: [illegible] featuring [illegible]. 9 pm, $10

Los Amiguitos de La Peña Saturday morning children's show w/ live music. La Peña Cultural Center. 10:30 am, $6 kids $4

Soul, Funk, R&B & Hip-Hop

Black Star w/ Dante & Mr. E. Fox Theater. 8 pm, $49.50

Michael McDonald w/ special guest Chaka Khan. Mountain Winery. 7:30 pm, $49.50-$95

[illegible] featuring [illegible], The Understudies, Melina Jones, [illegible] & more. [illegible]. 10 pm, $12

World, Latin, Reggae & Reggaeton

The Caribbean Without w/ [illegible]

Ashkenaz. 9:30 pm, $10, $12

SAN FRANCISCO

Blues, Folk & Country

The Wonder Brothers Biscuits & Blues. 9 & 10 pm, $20

[illegible] w/ [illegible], Hemlock Tavern. 5 pm, $6

Larry Carlton Trio Yoshi's San Francisco. 8 & 10 pm, $22-$32

The Mad Maggies Blackthorn Tavern. 10 pm, tba

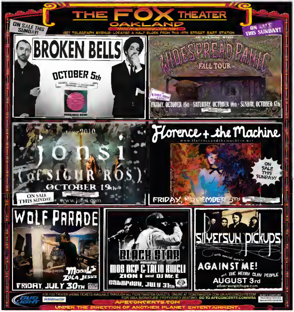
[illegible] Italian folk music w/ [illegible]. Caffe Trieste. 11:30 am-2:15 pm, free

[illegible] w/ [illegible], Hemlock Tavern. 9:30 pm, $8

[illegible] w/ Cute Lepers, Stagger And Fall. Slim's. 9 pm, $10

The [illegible] Plough and Stars. 9 pm, tba

Classical & Opera



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C&C

The Queen's Women: Music of Early Women Composers featuring San Francisco Renaissance Voices, Oakland Unitarian Fellowship, 7:30 pm, $20-$15 students/seniors.

Experimental & Avant-Garde

Animosity The Lab, 8 pm, $5-$15 sliding scale.

Jazz, Lounge & Cabaret

Beach Blanket Babylon Musical revue and spoof of pop-culture figures in which Snow White travels around the world in search of Prince Charming. Club Fugazi, 7 & 10 pm, $25-$77.

Bobby Fe Hotel San Francisco Fontana Lounge, 8 p.m.-midnight, free.

Barbeque Project Coda, 7 pm, $8.

Jimmy Bandor Peter Reeds, 10:30 pm, $25.

Rock & Pop

400 Bolts w/ Tatis, Sweet Bangor, The Kacyhead, 10 pm, $8.

Dodos Rebel Rebels w/ MacMorrow, Moola Cannon, Bottom of the Hill, 9:30 pm, $10-$12.

Ringo's Umbrella w/ The Brad Bobby Loyd Family Players, Elbo Room, 10 pm, $10.

Girls & Boys Happy Hour Show w/ Acid Bandit, Thee Parkside, 5-8 pm, free.

The Gentlemen w/ Hongisland, The Ameles, El Rio, 9 pm, $8.

The Love Dimension w/ Three Hills of Gold, Heritage Pie, The Aumolis, & If and Bar 8, 11 pm, $8.

The Love Dimension w/ Three Hills of Gold, Heritage Pie, The Aumolis, & If and Bar 8, 1 & 3 pm, $8.

The Delicious Johnny Foley's Irish House, 8 pm, free.

Barbeque Bandit w/ Poorly Gate Music, Cafe du Nord, 9:30 pm, $12.

Gentry w/ Brooks Was Here, Hotel Utah, 10 pm, $8.

The Temperamentals w/ Bob Fight, Physically Fit Continues & The Mahalaoks, Thee Parkside, 3 pm, free.

Tokyo Raid w/ The Trees, Lugnuts, Solo Love, Mehos, 9 pm, $5-$8.

Soul, Funk, R&B & Hip-Hop

DeeCee's Soul Shakedown featuring DJ Tovey, Honor Roll, Ivie Club & Fitter Done One, & more. Club Six, 9 pm, $10-$15.

The Instruments Coda, 10 pm, $10.

World, Latin, Reggae & Reggaeton

Dr. Dolls & Latin Club Inc. Present: Mala w/ Levit, Wrens, Great Northern Music Hall, 8 pm, $12-$25.

Music Music Dolls Pulsi Pachamama, 8 pm, $15-$11.

More Listings Online

Get info about hundreds of musical events at EastBayExpress.com or at m.EastBayExpress.com

SUNDAY 1

EAST BAY

Blues, Folk & Country

Russell Street Ashkenaz, 8 pm, $10-$12.

Dar Williams Freight & Salvage, 8 pm, $20.50-$25.50.

Pablo Cruise San Ramon Central Park, 6:30 pm, free.

Jimmy's All Star Blues Jam Sessions Jimmy hosts a different blues band every week, Pitfall's Restaurant, 8 pm, free.

Rough Gander Beckett's, 10 pm, free.

Jazz, Lounge & Cabaret

Club Dover & Kris Kerk Piedmont Piano Company, 4 pm, $15 donation.

Club Dover and Gander Oakland Public Library Golden Gate Branch, 3 pm, free.

How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying featuring Diablo Theater Company, San Ramon Valley High School Performing Arts Center, 2:30 pm, $12-$15.

Bar Quartet Jazz Quartet classic & contemporary jazz, Cal Inn Hill, 3-6 pm, free.

John Pizzarelli Yoshi's, 2 & 7 pm, $28-$5 kids for matinee.

Hang Street Hot Foxpint plutropie, 4:30 pm, $10.

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Yoshi's Named Top 100 Bay Area Restaurants 2010 —San Francisco Chronicle
tonight! Wed, July 28 "Celebrating 88 Years of Charles Mingus" MINGUS AMUNGUS
tomorrow! Thurs July 29 (8pm) TIZER: Lao Tizer, Chieli Minucci, Karen Briggs
tomorrow! Thurs July 29 (10:30pm) "The Mind of Ise Lyfe" featuring ISE LYFE live
this weekend! Fri, Sat, July 30-31 LARRY CARLTON TRIO
this weekend! Sat July 31 (10pm) MACY GRAY DJ SET
this weekend! Sun, August 1 BONEY JAMES
next week! Mon August 2 THE DIDJERIDU SUMMIT with STEPHEN KENT ONDREJ SMEYKAL & special guests
August 5-6 Next Week! QUINCY JONES PRESENTS: ALFREDO RODRIGUEZ: SOLO & TRIO
August 5-7 (8pm) PETER WHITE
Fri, August 6 (10:30pm) Beyond Jazz Series: Chali 2na OF JURASSIC 5 With Live Band
Sat, August 7 (10:30pm) Beyond Jazz Series FREESTYLE FELLOWSHIP
tomorrow! Thurs July 29 LOCURA
This Weekend! July 30-Aug 1 JOHN PIZZARELLI
Mon August 2 POLYHYMNIA
next week! Tues August 3 LYDIA PENSE & COLD BLOOD
next week! Wed August 4 GLOBAL GUITARS A BENEFIT FOR KCSM JAZZ 91.1
Feat. The V-Note Ensemble, Jacksboro Ragu, Le Jazz Hot Oakland of the Hot Club of SF led by Paul Mehling, Terrence Brewer, Calvin Keys and Wagon Go To Cross
Thurs, August 5 MARTIN LUTHER Celebrating new CD coming soon: LOVE IS THE HEAD
August 6-8 GERALD ALBRIGHT
Mon August 9 SHEMEKIA COPELAND
Tues August 10 AMINA FIGAROVA
Wed August 11 MILK & JADE BY DANA LEONG
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Air Bar & Lounge 492 9th St., Oakland, 510-444-2579.
Albatross Pub 1822 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley, 510-843-2473, AlbatrossPub.com.
The Alley 3325 Grand Ave., Oakland, 510-444-8505.
Amoeba Music 2455 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley, 510-549-1125.
Armando's 707 Marina Vista Ave., Martinez, 925-228-4945.
Art House Gallery & Cultural Center 2905 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 510-472-3170.
Ashkenaz 1317 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley, 510-525-5054.
Bask 4825 Hopyard, Pleasanton, 925-416-0777.
Bay Street Club 5610 Bay St., Emeryville.
Beckett's 2271 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 510-647-1790.
[illegible] Bar 517 17th St., Oakland, 510-488-2286.
[illegible] Center for the Arts 1001 Lincoln St., Oakland, 510-523-0057.
Betty's Club Bar 1251 Arroyo Way, Walnut Creek, 925-878-0152.
The Bistro 1001 B St., Hayward, 510-886-8525.
Blake's on Telegraph 2367 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley, 510-848-0886.
[illegible] 2640 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley, 510-548-5198.
Campo di Bocce 175 E. Vineyard Ave., Livermore, 925-249-9800.
Club 1200 1220 Pine St., Walnut Creek, 925-938-4500.
Club 21 2111 Franklin St., Oakland, 510-268-9425.
Club [illegible] 420 3rd St., Oakland, 510-463-0165.
Club X 100 3rd St., Oakland, 510-879-3801.
[illegible] 3865 Grand Ave., Oakland, 510-465-4224.
College Lane 620 Ferry St., Martinez, 925-228-3347.
Conga Lounge 5422 College Ave., Oakland, 510-463-2681.
[illegible] Sports Bar 1524 Club Dr., Walnut Creek, 925-932-1581.
Eagles Hall 2305 Alameda Ave., Alameda, 510-285-6286.
Easy Lounge 3255 Lakeshore Ave., Oakland, 510-338-4311.
Everett & Jones Barbeque 126 Broadway, Oakland, 510-663-2350.
First Congregational Church 2345 Channing Way, Berkeley, 510-848-3696.
First Presbyterian Church 2619 Broadway, Oakland, 510-444-3555.
Fox Theater 1807 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, TheFoxOakland.com.
[illegible] 111 W. Tennyson Rd., Hayward, 510-783-[illegible].
Freight & Salvage 2020 Addison St., Berkeley, 510-644-2020.
Hertz Hall UC Berkeley (Bancroft Way at College Ave.), Berkeley, 510-642-9988.
[illegible] Paradise Club 1436 Webster St., Alameda, 510-865-3225.
Jazzschool 2087 Addison St., Berkeley, 510-845-5373.
Jewish Community Center of the East Bay 1414 Walnut St., Berkeley, 510-848-0237.
Julie's Coffee & Tea Garden 1223 Park St., Alameda, 510-865-2385.
Jupiter 2181 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 510-843-8277.
[illegible] 1408 Webster St., Oakland, 510-[illegible].
Kimball's Carnival 522 2nd St., Oakland, 510-444-6461.
King Tsin Chinese Restaurant 1699 Solano Ave., Berkeley.
Kingman's Lucky Lounge 3332 Grand Ave., Oakland, 510-465-5464.
[illegible] 858 San Pablo Ave., Albany, 510-526-5888.
Kitty's 6702 Hollis St., Emeryville, 510-601-0301.
La Peña Cultural Center 3105 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 510-849-2568.
[illegible] 3903 Grand Ave., Oakland, 510-658-2373.
Lake Merritt Garden Sailboat House 1520 Lakeshore Ave., Oakland, 510-[illegible].
Lakeshore Baptist Church 3534 Lakeshore Ave., Oakland, 510-893-2484.
Laney College Theater 900 Fallon St., Oakland, 510-464-3543.
Lost Weekend Lounge 1320 Santa Clara Ave., Alameda, 510-523-4700.
Lounge 3411 3411 MacArthur Blvd., Oakland.
Luka's Taproom & Lounge 2221 Broadway, Oakland, 510-451-4677.
[illegible] Sports Bar & Club 2121 N. Main St., Walnut Creek, 925-295-1945.
Maxwell's Lounge 341 13th St., Oakland, 510-839-6169.
Missouri Lounge 2600 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley, 510-548-2080.
Mountain Winery 14831 Pierce Rd., Saratoga, 408-741-2822.
Nomad Cafe 6500 Shattuck Ave., Oakland, 510-595-5344.
Oakland City Church 500 12th St., Oakland, 510-238-8838.
Oakland Metro Operahouse 630 3rd St., Oakland, 510-763-1146.
ORACLE Arena 7000 Coliseum Way, Oakland, 510-569-2121.
[illegible] Lounge 2212 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 510-735-9995.
Paramount Theatre 2025 Broadway, Oakland, 510-465-6400.
The New Parish 579 18th St., Oakland, 510-444-7474, TheNewParish.com.
[illegible] restaurant 32 Lafayette Circle, Lafayette, 925-284-1117.
Pleasanton Hotel 855 Main St., Pleasanton, 925-846-8106.
Quinn's Lighthouse 1951 Embarcadero Cove, Oakland, 510-536-2050.
[illegible] 13th St., Oakland.
[illegible] 3553 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Lafayette, 925-284-4012.
[illegible] Restaurant 1700 Clement Ave., Alameda, 510-337-0330.
Ruby Room 132 14th St., Oakland, 510-444-7224.
[illegible] Club 3911 [illegible], Fremont, 510-371-2472.
Shattuck Down Low 2284 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 510-548-1158.
[illegible] Barbeque 2[illegible] San Ramon Valley Blvd. (Ste. 120), San Ramon.
Shoreline Amphitheatre One Amphitheatre Pkwy., Mountain View, 650-967-3000.
Speisekammer 2424 Lincoln Ave., Alameda, 510-522-1300.
Spoontonic Lounge 2560 N. Main St., Walnut Creek, 925-274-1818.
St. Mark's Episcopal Church 2300 Bancroft Way, Berkeley, 510-848-5107.
St. John's Presbyterian Church 2727 College Ave., Berkeley, 510-845-6830.
Starry Plough 3101 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 510-841-2082.
Stork Club 2330 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 510-444-6174.
Sweet Fingers 464 E. 14th St., San Leandro, 510-[illegible].
Uptown 1928 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 510-451-8100.
Vinnie's Bar & Grill 2045 Mt. Diablo St., Concord, 925-685-8510.
Wente Vineyards Restaurant 5050 Arroyo Rd., Livermore, 925-456-2450.
Wheeler Auditorium UC Berkeley, Berkeley, 510-642-4290.
White Horse Bar 6551 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 510-652-3820.
Yoshi's 510 Embarcadero West, Oakland, 510-238-9200.
Zellerbach Hall UC Berkeley, Berkeley, 510-642-9988.
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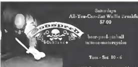
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C&C

Terrance [illegible] The [illegible] 8 '30-9 pm free

Rock & Pop

The [illegible] The New Parish 8 pm, $5

REO Speedwagon, Pat Benatar and Edwin McCain Ironstone Amphitheatre 7 pm $45-$340

Scorpions w/ Cinderella Sleep Train Pavilion 7 pm, tba

Soul, Funk, R&B & Hip-Hop

John Legend Mountain Winery, 7:30 pm, $55-$140.50

World, Latin, Reggae & Reggaeton

[illegible] La Peña Cultural Center, 3:30 pm free

[illegible] featuring students from [illegible] 4 pm $[illegible]

SAN FRANCISCO

Blues, Folk & Country

[illegible] w/ The Harmon [illegible] Hotel Utah, 8 pm, $7

[illegible] [illegible] 9 pm, $6

[illegible] Johnny Foley's Irish House 9 pm free

[illegible] w/ [illegible] Hotel Utah, 9 pm, $6

[illegible] Stern Grove, 2 pm, free

[illegible] Plough and Stars, 8 pm, tba

Classical & Opera

[illegible] Golden Gate Park, 1 pm free

[illegible] on piano for Sunday champagne brunch, Top of the Mark, 10 am-1 pm, $59 for brunch plus [illegible]

Jazz, Lounge & Cabaret

[illegible] a [illegible] revue of pop culture figures in which Snow White travels [illegible] the search of Prince Charming, Club Fugazi, 2 & 5 pm, $25-$17

[illegible] Sunday [illegible] 4-5 pm, $20-$30; $60 [illegible] show

[illegible] The Second Annual [illegible] featuring The [illegible], The Moon [illegible], Cafe du Nord, 8 pm, $12-$15

[illegible] featuring Andrew [illegible], Sam [illegible] & [illegible], [illegible] Saloon 4:30-8:30 pm, $5

Rock & Pop

[illegible] featuring As I Lay Dying, Between The [illegible] and Me, Underoath & more The Warfield, 4:20 pm, $28.50-$32

[illegible] w/ [illegible] Fight or Flight, Amnesia, 8 pm, $8-$90

[illegible] w/ The English Beat, The [illegible] 8 pm, $31.50

[illegible] w/ [illegible] Slim's, 8 pm, $12

[illegible] w/ [illegible], Honeycomb, [illegible] Show, 8 pm, $10

[illegible] Johnny Foley's Irish House, 9 pm, free

Soul, Funk, R&B & Hip-Hop

[illegible] Yoshi's San Francisco 7 & 9 pm, $50-$55

World, Latin, Reggae & Reggaeton

[illegible] Cafe, 8 pm, $10

MONDAY 2

EAST BAY

Blues, Folk & Country

Bluegrass Jam [illegible] Taqueria, 8-10 pm free

[illegible] w/ [illegible] Fox Theater, 8 pm, $32

Classical & Opera

[illegible] acoustic mandolin [illegible] Caffe Trieste, 1 pm, free

Jazz, Lounge & Cabaret

[illegible] Piedmont [illegible] Company 8 pm $15 donation

Soul, Funk, R&B & Hip-Hop

California Flight plus special comedy guests, [illegible] & Lounge, 8-11 pm, $20

[illegible] Yoshi's, 8 pm, $12

SAN FRANCISCO

Blues, Folk & Country

Irish Session Ireland's 32 Bar & Grill, 8 pm, free

Rock & Pop

[illegible] w/ [illegible] Pritchard, Bottom of the Hill, 8 pm, $8

[illegible] Johnny Foley's Irish House 9 pm, free

[illegible] w/ Vanity Theft, [illegible], DNA Lounge, 8 pm, $5

[illegible] Elbo Room, 9 pm, tba

World, Latin, Reggae & Reggaeton

The [illegible] w/ Stephen [illegible] Yoshi's San Francisco, 8 pm, $12-$15

VENUE DIRECTORY

SAN FRANCISCO

209 Club [illegible] 415-44[illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] 415-541-0624
[illegible] 353 [illegible] St. 415-970-0712
[illegible] 1855 Haight St. 415-831-1200
[illegible] 917 Folsom St., 415-974-1585
[illegible] 1500 Bush St. 415-171-1818
[illegible] 1 Tillman Pl., 415-362-8759
[illegible] Restaurant and Wine Salon 442 [illegible] St. 415-904-4100
[illegible] 3021 California St. 415-[illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] 415-288-5429
[illegible] Bar 2399 Mission St., 415-285-1323
[illegible] 1025 Columbus Ave 415-474-8581
[illegible] 441 [illegible] St., 415-292-2583
[illegible] 3330 17th St. 415-421-4455
[illegible] 2399 Mission St., 415-643-5700
[illegible] 2170 Jerrold St., 415-861-5015
Cafe Independent 888 Haight St., 415-558-1118
[illegible] 800 Valencia St. 415-862-2805
[illegible] 1190 Folsom St., 415-431-3332
[illegible] Ballroom 333 Harriet St. 415-626-1722
The [illegible] 446 Sutter St. 415-441-5678
[illegible] 785 3rd St. 415-203-0830
[illegible] 478 Green St., 415-433-4222
[illegible] 81 9th St., 415-843-5304
[illegible] 1730 Mission St., 415-861-2853
[illegible] Symphony Hall 201 Van Ness Ave. 415-864-6000
[illegible] 2801 Leavenworth St. 415-775-5110
[illegible] Lounge 315 11th St., 415-626-1409
[illegible] 2496 3rd St., 415-641-4592
The [illegible] Tavern 398 12th St. 415-626-0960
[illegible] 950 Geary St., 415-885-4074
[illegible] 2773 16th St., 415-437-6041
[illegible] 3158 [illegible] St. 415-285-3281
[illegible] 641 [illegible] St. 415-552-7788
[illegible] Lounge 1018 Geary St., 415-581-1357
The [illegible] 410 9th St. 415-640-0009
The [illegible] 1000 Geary Blvd., 415-346-6000
[illegible] 510 4th St. 415-333-1900
The [illegible] Ballroom 1300 [illegible] Ave. 415-613-5756
[illegible] Music Hall 859 O'Farrell St., 415-885-0750
[illegible] 1338 Polk St. 415-923-0923
[illegible] 401 Van Ness Ave., 415-392-4400
[illegible] 508 4th St., 415-546-6300
The Independent 628 Divisadero St., 415-771-1421
Ireland's 32 Bar & Grill 3920 Geary Blvd. 415-386-6173
Jazz at Pearl's 256 Columbus Ave 415-291-8255
Johnny Foley's Irish House 243 O'Farrell St., 415-954-0777
The [illegible] 3223 Mission St. 415-550-6994
[illegible] Lounge 1750 Mission St., 415-864-5585
[illegible] Lounge 599 [illegible] St., 415-541-0380
[illegible] 2026 22nd St. 415-648-2208
[illegible] 444 [illegible] St., 415-626-2030
The Music Room 45 West Portal Ave
[illegible] 1703 [illegible] St., 415-454-5238
[illegible] Brewery 1000 [illegible] Highway, 415-355-0000
[illegible] 1130 Powell St., 415-848-0048
Pier 39 The Embarcadero, 415-705-7304
[illegible] Lounge 1189 Polk St., 415-921-1695
[illegible] Lounge 628 20th St., 415-876-7336
[illegible] 355 Fell St. 415-861-2011
[illegible] 406 Clement St., 415-387-6344
[illegible] 222 [illegible] St.
San Francisco Conservatory of Music 50 Oak St. 415-503-6275
Slim's 333 11th St. 415-522-0333
[illegible] 3000 20th St., 415-621-9294
[illegible] Tavern 853 Cortland Ave. 415-970-8336
Space 550 550 Barneveld Ave., 415-550-8286
[illegible] 759 9th St. 415-863-6623
[illegible] Gallery 2601 Mission St., 415-255-1721
[illegible] 657 Harrison St., 415-348-0900
[illegible] 501 Geary St., 415-861-2282
[illegible] 540 Howard St.
Three [illegible] 1906 37th St., 415-585-0903
Top of the Mark 1 Nob Hill, 999 California St. 415-616-6916
[illegible] 600 Bush St., 415-588-0000
[illegible] 412 Broadway St. 415-170-0228
The [illegible] 660 [illegible] St. 415-175-1722
[illegible] Restaurant and Lounge 2010 [illegible] St. 415-563-5685
Yoshi's San Francisco 1330 Fillmore St. 415-655-5600

BEST OF THE EAST BAY PARTY

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EAST BAY EXPRESS PRESENTS

The Stone Foxes

Performing on the Main Stage at the Best of the East Bay Party August 5

Band Members

Shannon Koehler
Spence Koehler
Aaron Mort
Avi Vinocur

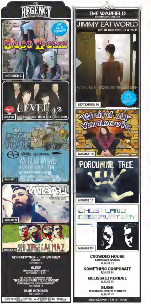
Band Bio

It's not just great song writing, warm guitars, a straight rhythm section, and the occasional blues harp riffs that make The Stone Foxes' second album Bears & Bulls, so good. The Bay Area four-piece consisting of brothers Shannon and Spence Koehler, Aaron Mort, and Avi Vinocur have captured something else on this recording that makes the whole thing huge, and very, very cool.

Listeners sense it right away. There's a genuineness here that's rare and refreshing, and it's something that can't be achieved simply by grabbing a couple of vintage axes and plugging into a stack of tube amps. Because while The Stone Foxes may be influenced by the greats of the late 60s and early 70s like The Band, Bob Dylan, and Led Zeppelin, they never sound like they're trying to be anything but exactly who they are. But then they don't need to: their style of bluesrock stands on its own.

Website

www.thestonefoxes.com
www.myspace.com/thestonefoxes



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JULY 30

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AUGUST 1

MATISYAHU
AUGUST 3

SEU JORGE AND ALMAZ
AUGUST 15

APOCALYPTICA • DIR EN GREY
SEPTEMBER 1

SLEEP

AN ACOUSTIC EVENING WITH
THE AIRBORNE TOXIC EVENT
FEATURING THE CALDER QUARTET
SEPTEMBER 19

BLUE OCTOBER

THE WARFIELD

JIMMY EAT WORLD
WITH WE WERE PROMISED JETPACKS
INVENTED IN STORES SEPTEMBER 28TH
SEPTEMBER 30

"Weird Al" Yankovic
AUGUST 10

PORCUPINE TREE
AUGUST 11

GHOSTLAND OBSERVATORY
AUGUST 20

CROWDED HOUSE
LAWRENCE ARABIA
AUGUST 23

SOMETHING CORPORATE
AUGUST 24

MELISSA ETHERIDGE
AUGUST 26

SLASH
FEATURING MYLES KENNEDY
AUGUST 29

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C&C

TUESDAY 3

EAST BAY

Blues, Folk & Country

Barbara Presents: Karaoke Night w/ [illegible], 7:30-11 pm, free
Lil Monde & The Gigant Sensations Ashkenaz, 8:30 pm, $[illegible]

Jazz, Lounge & Cabaret

Barbara Linn & John Global Caffè Trieste, 1 pm, free
Eddie Pasternak Duo w/ Britt Coutee, Cafe Rouge, 6:30 pm, free
The Jazzschool in Association with The Berkeley Public Library Present: The Jazz Journey with Bill Bell Berkeley Public Library Central Branch, 6:30 pm, free
Global Barbara Trio Jack London Square, 6 pm, free

Rock & Pop

Live Moon Tuesdays featuring Fult, The Butlers, & Sonsinel Frogs, Oakland Moon Opera House, 8 pm, $30-$35
Rabbit Ears w/ Marmite Roast-in, Hits, Stork Club, 8 pm, free
Ringo Starr & His All Starr Band Mountain Winery, 8 pm, $55-$149.50
Sherman Pickups w/ Against Me!, Henry Cow People, Fox Theater, 7:00 pm, $36

Soul, Funk, R&B & Hip-Hop

Lydia Pense & Cold Blood Yoshi's, 8 pm, $20

SAN FRANCISCO

Blues, Folk & Country

The Moon Goldfins w/ For Fear the Mouth of Man Are Breaking, Breathing the Glow, El Rio, 8 pm, $5
Moonshine Music Johnny Foley's Irish House, 9 pm, free
Otis & The Moon w/ Leif Vollebekk, Hotel Utah, 9 pm, $[illegible]

Jazz, Lounge & Cabaret

Alfredo Rodriguez Trio Yoshi's, San Francisco, 8 & 10 pm, $16-$18
Jazz Mafia Tuesdays Coda, 8 pm, $7
[illegible] Bruno's, 9 pm, $5
[illegible] [illegible] Club, 9:30 pm, $10

Rock & Pop

Diego's Umbrella Park Chalet, [illegible] 8:30 pm, free
[illegible] w/ Bog People, Autistic Youth, [illegible], The Knockout, 9 pm, $[illegible]
Matisyahu The Grand Ballroom, 8 pm, $30-$32
[illegible] w/ [illegible], [illegible], Rickshaw Stop, 8 pm, $[illegible]
[illegible] with Michael Johnny Foley's Irish House, 9:30 pm, free
The Boston Tides w/ [illegible], Cafe du Nord, 8 pm, $10-$12
[illegible] [illegible], 8 pm, $25-$65; $[illegible] for age 18 and under

Soul, Funk, R&B & Hip-Hop

[illegible] Hemlock Tavern, 8 pm, $6

World, Latin, Reggae & Reggaeton

[illegible] w/ Fogo Na Roupa, [illegible], 8 pm, $[illegible]

WEDNESDAY 4

EAST BAY

Jazz, Lounge & Cabaret

[illegible] Oakland City Center, noon, free
[illegible] & the Global Moon Roost w/ [illegible], 8:30 pm, free
Global Human: A Benefit for KCSM Jazz 91.1 featuring the V-Naas Ensemble, Geraldine Rago, & Le Jazz Hot Quartet, Yoshi's, 8 pm, $20
[illegible] [illegible], Campo X, [illegible] 6-9 pm, free

Rock & Pop

Big Thief [illegible] presented by [illegible]. This week: [illegible] Club Combos, & Red Paint, the Uptown, 9 pm, free

Soul, Funk, R&B & Hip-Hop

Global Makeout Presents: featuring [illegible], The [illegible] Experience
Global on Songbook 8 pm, $8-$10
[illegible] [illegible], 8 pm, $10

SAN FRANCISCO

More Listings Online
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Blues, Folk & Country

Little Blonde Barbara & Blues, 8 & 10 pm, $25

Jazz, Lounge & Cabaret

Alfredo Rodriguez Trio Yoshi's San Francisco, 8 & 10 pm, $17-$19
DJ Wednesdays featuring [illegible], Coda, 9 pm, $[illegible]
Global Barbara Rodgers [illegible] revue and [illegible] pop-culture figures in [illegible] Snow White travels around the world in search of Prince Charming, Club Fugazi, 8 pm, $25-$81
The Curtis Marcato Coda, 7 pm, $7
Barbara [illegible] the Moon [illegible], Amnesia, 8 pm, free
Mexico Musical [illegible] Room, 8 pm, $[illegible]

Rock & Pop

Apollo Sunshine w/ Big Light, Kiwi & Bottlecaps, The Independent, 8 pm, $12-$14
Big Champagne w/ [illegible], Kimo's, 9 pm, $5-$8
Barbara The Fillmore, 8 pm, [illegible]
[illegible] Global Tour 2010 [illegible] Slim's, 8 pm, $22-$25
The [illegible] w/ Golden Arrow [illegible] & [illegible], El Rio, 9 pm, $4
The Last Gas Jazz w/ [illegible] Presents: Saxophone Break [illegible], 9 pm, $6
Blonde Generator w/ Swirl Bird, It's Casual, Elbo Room, 9 pm, $10-$12
The Parties w/ Bye Bye Blossom, Lotus Moons, Hemlock Tavern, 8 pm, $6
The [illegible] w/ [illegible], [illegible], & [illegible] Rickshaw Stop, 8 pm, $[illegible]
[illegible] w/ The Shimmies, Moors, Bottom of the Hill, 9 pm, $8
[illegible] Johnny Foley's Irish House, 9 pm, free

Submissions for music listings should be e-mailed to Clubs@EastBayExpress.com or mailed to Clubs Editor, East Bay Express, 620 3rd St., Oakland, CA, 94607. Deadline is 14 days prior to the event date.

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ZOE ELLIS
[illegible]

SAT 7/31
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THU 7/29
VITAMIN PARTY
OVER THE FALLS
THE INTRORIFFAGAINS

FRI 7/30
THE SPIRITS OF THE RED CITY (MINNEAPOLIS)
DUMSPIROSPERO
THE BUCKWALKS

SAT 7/31
OCEANOGRAPHY
JESSI PHILLIPS
THERE THERE

TUE 8/3
RABBIT EARS
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HITS

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THE NEW PARISH
[illegible]

FRI 7/30 NATIONAL RECORDS PRESENTS
PACHA MASSIVE PLUS DJ SANTERO
DOORS 9PM / $[illegible] ADV / 18+

SUN 8/1 THE PUNK ROCK
VAUDEVILLE ROADSHOW
DOORS 8PM / [illegible] / $6 ADV / 21+

FRI 8/6 [illegible] PRESENTS
SPINDRIFT PLUS [illegible]
SPECIAL EARLY $[illegible] SHOW / DOORS 7PM / [illegible]

FRI 8/6 SOULFUL HOUSE
THE PEOPLE BEST OF EAST BAY AFTER-PARTY EDITION
DOORS 10:00 PM / $5 BEFORE 11 / 21+

SAT 8/7 JAFFE EVENTS
PISTOLERA / TOKESON
DOORS 8:30 PM / SHOW 9:30 / $12 / $8 ADV / 18+

THUR 8/12 HOT WATER CORNBREAD
SOUL CYPHER A SPOKEN WORD, ART & LIVE MUSIC FUSION
DOORS 8PM / $10 / $12 ADV / 18+

FRI 8/13 [illegible] PRESENTS
AKRON FAMILY PLUS WHITE HILLS & OUR WEATHER CALIFORNIA
DOORS 8PM / SHOW 9 / $[illegible] ADV / 18+

SAT 8/14
LEO BASH FEATURING THE [illegible]
[illegible] AT 8:30PM / $[illegible] ADV / $[illegible] DOOR

HAPPY HOUR EVERY TUESDAY THIS SUMMER!
TUESDAY'S ON THE TERRACE
[illegible]

[illegible]

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myspace.com/joncrocker
2 PM BATS IN THE BELFRY
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7:30 pm Balkan dance lesson

FRI 7/30 9:30 pm $12 $10 advance
BRAZILIAN
FORRÓ BRAZUCA + DJ CARIOCA
8:30 pm Forró dance lesson

SAT 7/31 9:30 pm $13 $10 advance
CARIBBEAN/REGGAE
CARIBBEAN ALLSTARS
BASS CULTURE with NEZ B

SUN 8/1 8:00 pm $12 $10 advance
ECSTATIC SUFI TRANCE GROOVES

BARAKA MOON
Sukhawat Ali Khan, Stephen Kent, Geoffrey Gordon

TUE 8/3 8:30 pm $10
ZYDECO
LIL POOKIE & THE ZYDECO SENSATIONS
8:00 pm Cajun/Zydeco dance lesson

WED 8/4 8:00 pm $7
FOLKDANCE
BALKAN FOLKDANCE
7:00 pm dance lessons

THU 8/5 10:00 pm $10 $8 advance
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Phish Afterparty!

FRI 8/6 9:30 pm $15
ROOTS ROCK/ALT-COUNTRY
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THE CONGRESS
Phish Afterparty!

SAT 8/7 9:30 pm $13 $10 students
CUBAN – RUMBA/GUARACHA/SON

TITO Y SU SON DE CUBA
8:30 pm Cuban Salsa dance lesson

8/8 RIFFAT SULTANA — 8/12 ANDREW CARRIERE
8/11 POETRY FLASH BENEFIT — 8/13 DEDICATED MANIACS
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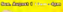
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DJ & DANCE

THURSDAY 29

EAST BAY

[illegible] Night w/ DJ and [illegible] spinning hip-hop, [illegible] Top 40, [illegible] 9 pm. $3 [illegible]

[illegible] spinning [illegible] Kingman's Lucky Lounge, 9 pm, free

DJ [illegible] spinning soul, funk, hip-hop [illegible] Easy Lounge, 10 pm, free

DJ [illegible] spinning lounge. [illegible] Lounge, 9 pm-2 am, free

Night [illegible] spinning [illegible] The Layover, 10 pm, free

Happy Hour w/ DJ Donovan spinning reggae, [illegible] soul, [illegible] boogie, disco, & funk. [illegible] 7 pm, free

Oakland [illegible] featuring [illegible] Joe [illegible] Taproom & Lounge, 10 pm, $5

[illegible] [illegible] new wave, [illegible] 10 pm-2 am, free

Thirsty Thursdays w/ [illegible] Funky Fresh [illegible] 90s flashbacks, hip-hop, & [illegible] 9 pm, free

More Listings Online

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SAN FRANCISCO

[illegible] and [illegible] dancehall, [illegible] Club, 9 pm, [illegible] $5

[illegible] [illegible] The Knockout, 7:30-10 pm, free

DJ [illegible] spinning [illegible] 9 pm, free

[illegible] [illegible] spinning eclectic dance beats, Underground SF, 9 pm, $5-$10

[illegible] [illegible] The EndUp, 10 pm, $10

[illegible] w/ [illegible] funk, soul, dancehall, reggae, house, & [illegible] 10 pm, $5

[illegible] Thursdays w/ [illegible] spinning reggae, Club Six, 9 pm-2 pm, $5, free before 11 p.m. w/ RSVP

FRIDAY 30

EAST BAY

[illegible] Night and [illegible] spin reggae [illegible] before [illegible] Club, 9 pm, $10

opening w/ [illegible] spinning the hottest music in the Bay Area, [illegible] 9 pm, $5

Friday Night Salsa w/ [illegible] spinning salsa, La Estrellita Cafe, 10 pm, $5

Hip-hop [illegible] w/ [illegible] Club 1220, 9 pm, $8

[illegible] spinning [illegible] 9 pm, free

Mandela weekly in-house DJ [illegible] Music, 7:30 pm, free

[illegible] Night with DJ [illegible] spinning reggae, soul, [illegible] R&B, before Paradise Club, 10 pm [illegible]

"Reggae Fridays" [illegible] & Short [illegible] reggae & R&B, Kaddisan City, 8:30 pm-1:30 am, $5 to $10

[illegible] Fridays DJ [illegible] spin R&B & soul, [illegible] 9 pm, $5

[illegible] spinning [illegible] Luka's Taproom & Lounge, 9 pm, $10

[illegible] Fridays spinning [illegible] reggae, dancehall [illegible] Arabic music, & more, Congo Lounge, 10 pm

SAN FRANCISCO

DJ [illegible] [illegible] Club, 9 pm, $10

DJ [illegible] spinning rock, hip-hop, new wave, R&B, [illegible] 9 pm, [illegible]

Down To Earth featuring [illegible] The Polish Ambassador, & dance [illegible] 10 pm, $10-$15

[illegible] The [illegible] 9 pm, $10-$20

[illegible] Fridays w/ [illegible] spinning hip-hop, R&B [illegible] Lounge, 9 pm, $5

Fridays at the [illegible] w/ [illegible] spinning soul, funk, & [illegible] 9 pm, free

Lounge [illegible] San Francisco, 9:30 pm, $5

Mandala weekly in-house DJ dance, Arabic Music, 8-9 pm, [illegible]

[illegible] celebrating the dance of the [illegible] Custom Cumbia [illegible] & the more experimental dubby and danceable side of post-punk, 222 Hyde, [illegible] 9 pm, free

The [illegible] Mighty, 9 pm, $10-$15

The [illegible] w/ [illegible] 9 pm, $10

[illegible] Fridays w/ rotating DJs from the Bay Area and around the world spinning hip-hop, Vessel, 9 pm, $10

Memoryhouse skates in Karen & Richard Carpenter guise

PICK

Three Kinds of Stupid Dance Party

This week, the **Rickshaw Stop** (155 Fell St., San Francisco) hosts **Anticon** label breakout laptop **DJ Baths**. Part of the heavy spacey Los Angeles experimentalist scene, San Fernando Valley native **Will Wiesenfeld** usually just rocks a **MacBook**, a mic, and some effects, conjuring lustrous melodies, ghostly choirs, sweeping synthesizers and druggy broken beats. His debut LP *Cerulean* is a high light of 2010 and somewhat of a critical darling. Baths is sandwiched Saturday night between **The Stupid DJs — Cakbridge, Brother Grimm and BAS** and headliner **Memoryhouse**. The Stupid DJs like Michael Jackson (Who doesn't?) and electroklash (Who does?), so bring your wayfarers. Ambient composers from Toronto **Memoryhouse** exquisitely incorporate shoegaze guitars, drum machines and '90s **Liz Phair**-esque vocal murmurings. Courteous make-out sessions in 3, 2, 1. Make. Out. Saturday, July 31, 9 p.m. $10 adv/$12 door. RickShawStop.com — *David Downs*

SATURDAY 31

EAST BAY

[illegible] Night and [illegible] spin reggae, [illegible] dance and R&B, before Paradise Club, 9 pm, $10

Club [illegible]'s [illegible] & Soul [illegible] house spin R&B, soul, funk, reggae, & hip-hop, [illegible] 9 pm, $10

DJ [illegible] [illegible] Down Low, 9 pm, $10

Superstar Saturday Night w/ DJ the White Horse Inn, 9 pm, $5

La [illegible] Latin cowboy night w/ DJs spinning salsa, norteño & [illegible] plus the go-go dancers, Club 21, 9 pm, $6-$10

Magic [illegible] DJ [illegible] & guests host [illegible] Kingman's Lucky Lounge, 9 pm, free

[illegible] Club [illegible] 9 pm, $5, free if in drag

[illegible] Club [illegible] 9 pm, $5, free if in drag

Pop [illegible] DJs spinning hits from the [illegible] to Michael Jackson, Ruby Room, 10 pm-2 am, free

[illegible] in the [illegible] spinning [illegible] 9 pm, $5

SAN FRANCISCO

[illegible] spinning funky [illegible] DJ [illegible] 9 pm, $12-$15

[illegible] w/ DJ [illegible] spinning the hottest Bay Area club hits, [illegible] 10 pm

[illegible] w/ [illegible] and [illegible] spin reggae, [illegible] with [illegible] 11 p.m. [illegible]

DJ Superstar w/ [illegible] Kool Kyle & [illegible] spinning Voodoo reggaeton, [illegible] Make-Out Room, 10 pm, $5

[illegible] featuring DJ [illegible] Lounge, 9 pm, $6

[illegible] Paradise [illegible] Mighty, 10 pm, $15

Jungle [illegible] spinning [illegible] 10 pm, free

[illegible] w/ DJs spinning hip-hop and [illegible] The Cellar, 9 pm, free before 10 p.m., $10 after

Tele Lounge DJs spinning [illegible] hip-hop, [illegible] 10 pm, $10

[illegible] of Stupid Dance Party spinning Memoryhouse, Baths, & DJs [illegible] BAS, Rickshaw Stop, 9 pm, $10-$12

SUNDAY 1

EAST BAY

King of Kings DJ [illegible] and guests

[illegible] Sundays featuring [illegible] spinning [illegible] Luka's Taproom & Lounge, 3 pm, free

[illegible] [illegible] spinning [illegible] & [illegible] Kingman's Lucky Lounge, 9 pm, free

[illegible] DJ [illegible] Luka's Taproom & Lounge, 9 pm, free

[illegible] DJ [illegible] before [illegible] & [illegible] staff Kingman's Lucky Lounge, 9 pm, free

SAN FRANCISCO

Dub [illegible] w/ DJ [illegible] & guests spinning soul, roots, & dancehall classics, [illegible] 9 pm, $10

[illegible] Sundays w/ Honey Soundsystem [illegible] spinning dance music, Paradise Lounge, 8 pm, $3 after 11 p.m.

Sunday [illegible] w/ DJs [illegible] spinning [illegible] The EndUp, 6 am-6 pm, $10

MONDAY 2

EAST BAY

DJ [illegible] spinning [illegible] the [illegible] soul, Easy Lounge, 9 pm, free

[illegible] Back & [illegible] w/ [illegible] p.m. [illegible] 2 a.m. Club 1220, 9 pm-2 am, free

Underground Lounge [illegible] 70s music, [illegible] 10 pm, free

spinning [illegible] DJ [illegible] spins old-school for bar & restaurant staff, Kingman's Lucky Lounge, 9 pm, free

SAN FRANCISCO

Death [illegible] Glas Kat, 9:30 pm, $3 [illegible] 11 p.m. $5

Grateful [illegible] Night Live [illegible] followed by DJs spinning all things "dead" and Jerry Garcia, Milk, $5

[illegible] classic soul, funk, hip-hop, reggae, Brazilian, Afrobeat, & more, [illegible] 10 pm, [illegible]

[illegible] Retro [illegible] w/ DJ [illegible] & the Duchess of [illegible] Knockout, 10 pm, free

Skylarking w/ DJs [illegible] spinning roots, dub, dancehall, and reggae, Skylark, 9:30 pm, free

TUESDAY 3

EAST BAY

spinning Acoustic Night plus live [illegible] Club 1220, 9 pm, free

DJ [illegible] spinning salsa & Latin funk, Easy Lounge, 9 pm, free

DJ [illegible] spinning punk, Layover [illegible] Lounge, 9 pm-2 am, free

SAN FRANCISCO

[illegible] w/ DJ [illegible] Stanley and guests spinning [illegible] and dance, [illegible] 10 pm, $3

DJ Johnny [illegible] w/ DJ [illegible] Argus Lounge, 9 pm, free

[illegible] spinning funked-up beats, underground hip-hop, & [illegible] grooves, Swig Bar, 9 pm, free

Pacific [illegible] hip-hop & soul w/ DJ [illegible] plus live guests, [illegible] 11 pm, $8

The Push [illegible] featuring live bands, plus [illegible] & [illegible] spinning punk rock at the Argus Lounge, The Knockout, 10 pm, $6

Swing [illegible] [illegible] 7 pm, $9

WEDNESDAY 4

EAST BAY

80s Night with [illegible] DJ [illegible] spins songs from the 80s, plus [illegible] spinning [illegible] Easy Lounge, 9 pm, free

[illegible] Ambience, 8 pm, $7

[illegible] Pop [illegible] w/ DJ [illegible] before [illegible] and spinning [illegible] house and electronica, [illegible] 9 pm, $5

The [illegible] [illegible] Hip-Hop w/ DJs [illegible] hip-hop, Club 21, 9 pm, $6-$15

[illegible] Latin cowboy night w/ live [illegible] and [illegible] 7 pm, $8-$10

[illegible] Wednesdays DJ [illegible] & rotating guests spin salsa, samba, merengue, reggaeton, & more, plus [illegible] Luka's Taproom & Lounge, 9 pm, free

SAN FRANCISCO

1984 [illegible] dance club, Edinburgh Castle, 9 pm, free

[illegible] featuring DJ [illegible] & more, plus art show, Club Six, 9 pm, $5-$20

[illegible] go-go dancers, plus DJs spinning [illegible] Glas Kat, 9:30 pm, $5 [illegible] 10:30 p.m. $7

DJ [illegible] spinning [illegible] new-school, underground hip-hop, & stripped-down [illegible] Swig Bar, 9 pm, free

Escape DJs spin hip-hop, R&B, reggae, & club classics, The Cellar, 10 pm, free

[illegible] Wednesday [illegible] hip-hop, reggae, funk, & soul, Skylark, 10 pm, $5

Toby's [illegible] DJ [illegible] spins house [illegible] & more, Ship's Tavern, 6-11:30 pm, [illegible]

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LEGAL NOTICES

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF Name
CASE NUMBER: [illegible]
Superior Court of California, County of Alameda
2225 Fallon Street
Oakland, CA 94612
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner BENJAMIN SCOTT [illegible] filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Present Name: BENJAMIN SCOTT [illegible] to Proposed Name BENJAMIN SCOTT [illegible] THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. NOTICE OF HEARING: September [illegible], 2010, at [illegible] A.M. in Dept. [illegible], [illegible] Street, 2nd Floor, Oakland CA 94612
A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once a week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: East Bay Express, Alameda County, [illegible] Dated June 28, 2010.
Signed: [illegible]
Judge of the Superior Court
7/28, 8/4, 8/11, 8/18/2010 [illegible]

Fictitious Business Name Statement
File # [illegible]
The following individual is doing business as **Pendus Fred** Street Address: [illegible] Oakland, CA 94[illegible] Mailing Address: Same As Above, is hereby registered by the following owner: [illegible] This business is conducted by an individual. The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on [illegible]. This Statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda County on [illegible] 2010
Pendus Fred
7/14, 7/21, 7/28, 8/4/2010

Fictitious Business Name Statement
File # [illegible]
The following business is doing business as **[illegible]** Street Address: [illegible] Oakland, CA 94[illegible] Mailing Address: Same As Above, is hereby registered by the following owner: [illegible] Oakland CA 94[illegible] This business is conducted by an [illegible]. The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on N/A. This Statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda County on [illegible] 2010
[illegible]
7/7, 7/14, 7/21, 7/28/2010

Fictitious Business Name Statement
File # 440274
The following individual is doing business as **Agile Data Security** Street Address: [illegible] Berkeley, CA 94710 Mailing Address: Same As Above, is hereby registered by the following owner: [illegible] This business is conducted by a Corporation. The Registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on N/A. The Statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda County on [illegible] 2010
Agile Data Security
7/7, 7/14, 7/21, 7/28/2010

Fictitious Business Name Statement
File # [illegible]
The following individual is doing business as **[illegible]** Street Address: [illegible] Oakland, CA 94618 Mailing Address: [illegible] Berkeley, CA 94710 is hereby registered by the following owner: [illegible] Berkeley, CA 94710. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on N/A. The Statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda County on 6/28/2010
[illegible]
7/14, 7/21, 7/28, 8/4/2010

Fictitious Business Name Statement
File # 440400
The following individual is doing business as **Safety 1st (USA) Community [illegible]** Street Address: [illegible] Oakland CA 94[illegible] Mailing Address: [illegible] Oakland CA 94[illegible] is hereby registered by the following owner: [illegible] This business is conducted by a Limited liability company. The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on N/A. The Statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda County on 07/08/2010
Safety 1st (USA) Community Service Ambassadors
7/14, 7/21, 7/28, 8/4/2010

Fictitious Business Name Properties
File # 440400
The following individual is doing business as **M&R Properties** Street Address: [illegible] Hayward, CA 94544 Mailing Address: [illegible] Hayward, CA 94544 is hereby registered by the following owner: [illegible] Hayward CA 94541 This business is conducted by an Individual. The business began to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on N/A. The Statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda County on [illegible] 2010
M&R Properties
7/28, 8/4, 8/11, 8/18/2010

Fictitious Business Name Statement
File # [illegible]
The following individuals are doing business as **[illegible] Company & [illegible]** Street Address: [illegible] Mailing Address: [illegible] is hereby registered by the following owners: [illegible] This business is conducted by a [illegible] partnership. The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on 08/20/1983. This Statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda County on 6/23/2010
[illegible] Company & [illegible]
7/7, 7/14, 7/21, 7/28/2010

Fictitious Business Name Statement
File # 439919
The following individual is doing business as **[illegible] Consulting** Street Address: [illegible] Oakland, CA 94[illegible] Mailing Address: Same as above, is hereby registered by the following owner: [illegible] Oakland, CA 94[illegible] This business is conducted by an individual. The Registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on 6/1/2008. This Statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda County on [illegible] 2010
[illegible] Consulting
7/21, 7/28, 8/4, 8/11/2010

Fictitious Business Name Statement
File # 440343
The following individual is doing business as **Beauty Within Photography** Street Address: [illegible] Oakland, CA 94[illegible] Mailing Address: [illegible] is hereby registered by the following owner: [illegible] This business is conducted by an individual. The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on N/A. This Statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda County on [illegible] 2010
Beauty Within Photography
7/28, 8/4, 8/11, 8/18/2010

Fictitious Business Name Statement
File # [illegible]
The following individual is doing business as **[illegible]** Street Address: [illegible] Berkeley, CA 94[illegible] Mailing Address: Same as above is hereby registered by the following owner: [illegible] Berkeley, CA 94705 This business is conducted by an individual. The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on 07/01/2010. This Statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda County on [illegible] 2010
[illegible]
7/21, 7/28, 8/4, 8/11/2010

Fictitious Business Name Statement
File # [illegible]
The following individual is doing business as **Golden Gate Brewing Company** Street Address: [illegible] Oakland, CA 94[illegible] Mailing Address: Same as above, is hereby registered by the following owner: [illegible] This business is conducted by an individual. The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on N/A. This Statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda County on [illegible] 2010
Golden Gate Brewing Company
7/28, 8/4, 8/11, 8/18/2010

Fictitious Business Name Statement
File # [illegible]
The following individual is doing business as **[illegible] Productions** Street Address: [illegible] Oakland, CA 94607 Mailing Address: Same as above is hereby registered by the following owner: [illegible] This business is conducted by an individual. The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on 1/15/2010. This Statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda County on [illegible] 2010
[illegible] Productions
7/21, 7/28, 8/4, 8/11/2010

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Fictitious Business Name Statement
File # 441124
The following individual is doing business as **[illegible] Engineering** Street Address: [illegible] Berkeley CA 94[illegible] Mailing Address: Same as above is hereby registered by the following owner: [illegible] This business is conducted by an individual. The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on [illegible] 2010. This Statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda County on [illegible] 2010
[illegible] Engineering
7/28, 8/4, 8/11, 8/18/2010

Fictitious Business Name Statement
File # 441336
The following individual is doing business as **[illegible] Productions** Street Address: [illegible] Oakland, CA 94[illegible] Mailing Address: Same as above is hereby registered by the following owner: [illegible] Oakland CA 94612 This business is conducted by an individual. The registrant began to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on N/A. The Statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda County on [illegible] 2010
[illegible] Productions
7/28, 8/4, 8/11, 8/18/2010

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF Name
CASE NUMBER: [illegible]
Superior Court of California, County of Alameda
2225 Fallon Street
Oakland CA 94612
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner [illegible] filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Present Name: [illegible] to Proposed Name [illegible] THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. NOTICE OF HEARING: [illegible] 2010, at [illegible] A.M. in Dept. [illegible], [illegible] Street, Oakland CA 94612.
A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once a week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: East Bay Express, Alameda County, California.
Dated: July 2, 2010
Signed: [illegible]
Judge of the Superior Court
7/7, 7/14, 7/21, 7/28/2010

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SAVAGE LOVE

PORN FOR ALL

Plus navigating the pitfalls of an open marriage.

By Dan Savage

Ever since hearing you say on your podcast that all men use porn, I have had a burning question: What about us women? If all men get a pass to have this whole other sex life, which is (mostly) external to their partnerships and is sexually satisfying, then I think all women should have a pass as well. Ideally, it would be a pass to enjoy something universally arousing to all women, something that would sexually satisfy us, but it wouldn't be something that men must use on—perhaps it might even repulse them.

If there were something that met my criteria, I wonder how it would play out in our relationships? Also, I am not sure what it could be, as women are a hair bit more complicated.

Desires Erotic Balance

Something women enjoy but men do not, something erotic—a free pass for just the ladies—something that repulses most men... Cupcakes?

The new ubiquitous cupcake isn't explicitly sexual, I realize, but our culture does encourage people—women in particular—to sublimate their erotic desires by stuffing their faces with food. And most of those squat, round, and pink frosted things look, to my jaded eyes, like so many squat little cocks, DEB: so many growers-not-showers with pink sprinkles, and most of those cupcakes are inhaled by women. So cupcakes.

But if cupcakes don't do it for you, DEB, then how about a free pass to enjoy...eyedunno, maybe porn?

"We're actually in the middle of a porn-for-women revolution as millions—yes, millions—of women are loudly, even proudly, proclaiming their interest in porn," said **Violet Blue**, author, blogger, activist, and tireless foe of anti-porn boneheads everywhere. If you were reading Blue's blog—TinyNibbles.com—you would know that one out of every three consumers of internet porn are female, according to a Nielsen NetRatings report released in 2007.

"What's interesting isn't just the growing number of women using porn," said Blue, "it's that they're doing exactly what DEB suggests. It's part of their own private sex lives that are mostly external to their relationships; they're using porn as reliably as their favorite vibrators."

What women have lacked up to now is the same "free pass" men enjoy.

"Guys are encouraged to have this other sex life with porn," said Blue, "that's seen as normal and healthy. But despite the numbers, our culture is having a hard time admitting that women like porn. Anti-porn feminists ignore the female viewer. The only people besides **Oprah** acknowledging the female viewer are the anti-porn Christians who see it (and female masturbation) as a disease they can cure!"

Blue directs female porn consumers to **Our Porn Ourselves** (OurPornOurselves.org).

"On OPO, women are talking about liking all kinds of porn, even stuff that goes too far for some guys," said Blue. "Women are making each other feel comfortable about their newfound access to porn, openly having their desire to watch sex (and jack off to it) validated the same way that guys do."

I am a man who has been in an open marriage for ten years. My wife dates men on her own, and I get to enjoy the occasional threesome with her and one of her partners. (We had no luck dating women or couples.) The problem is she is clearly more interested in "her" dates than in "ours," probably because the hotter guys are more interested in her alone than in us together. My wife is GGG, but it is hard for her to persuasively feign interest in the guys who are interested in us both. I can tell she would much rather be out on one of her dates. And it is frankly depressing to watch her go through the motions with one of "ours."

Does being GGG require her to be a good actress, or does it require me to pretend that I believe her when she claims she enjoys the three-ways we have together?

Is This A Silly Problem?

That isn't a silly problem, not at all. Open relationships only work—closed relationships only work—when they make both people happy. You're not happy, which means your open relationship isn't working.

Time to renegotiate terms.

Tell the wife to stop fucking other people for a while. (And, yes, you should have the authority to do that—both partners in an open relationship should be able to call a time out.) If your wife balks, concede that there are lots of hot guys out there who want to fuck her and that you're asking her to pass up on these opportunities for hot sex. Then remind her that you're the guy she married, that you're the guy she's hoping will stick around once hot guys aren't lining up to get in her pants anymore, and that there will still be hot guys out there who want to fuck her years from now.

While you're not fucking other people, fuck each other, fuck a lot, work to reestablish your sexual connection.

Then when you're ready to start fucking other people again—and you're not ready until you're both ready—your wife should agree that over the next year she will fuck only guys who are interested in fucking you both. That's going to mean passing up on some hot guys who are only into her, of course, but that's a sacrifice she should be willing to make in order to save her marriage. It also means that she'll have to work harder to find hot guys who are into you both—do whatever you can to help—but she'll be likelier to make that extra effort if it's the only way she gets to fuck a hot guy who isn't her husband.

Hopefully by the time your three-way-or-the-highway year is up, ITASP, you'll have a few regular thirds on deck—hot guys who are into you both, guys your wife won't have to pretend with—and then she can do some solo adventuring without shredding your self-esteem in the process. ●

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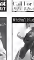

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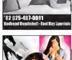

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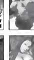

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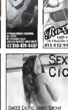

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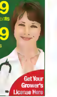

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